



Board of Directors Meeting

A G E N D A

April 20th, 2017

2:00 p.m.

Board Room, Administration Building

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10. Adjournment	

4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

4.1) Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – February 16, 2017



Board of Directors Meeting MINUTES

The Annual Meeting of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority's Board of Directors was held at Willson Hall at the University of Guelph Ridgetown Campus at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, February 16, 2017. The following directors were in attendance: J. Kavelaars, T. Thompson, S. Pinsonneault, D. McKillop, H. McDonald, S. Caveney, M. Smibert, G. Bogart, R. Doane, and J. Wolf.

1. Call to Order

2. Adoption of Agenda

1. S.Caveney – D. McKillop

Moved that the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

3. Disclosures of Conflicts of Interest
None Declared.

4. Chair's Remarks

The Chair, Mr. John Kavelaars welcomed the members, staff and guests to the Conservation Authority's Annual General Meeting.

5. Introduction of Guests

Mr. Don Pearson to introduced the guests:

- Bill Bruinink, Ska-Nah-Doht Village Advisory Committee
- Darcy Fallon, Ska-Nah-Doht Village Advisory Committee
- Bill Menzie, Municipal Enforcement Unit
- Gord & Janis Hamilton, LENSLA
- Dan & Chris Peltier, Greening Award Recipient
- Sarah Judd, Greening Award Recipient
- Allan Bogart, Friend
- Dave Richards, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
- Bernard Wiehle, Mayor of the Municipality of West Elgin
- Don Hector, Chatham-Kent Children's Water Festival
- Marcelo Villanueva, Union Gas Ltd
- Kyle Cronk, LENSLA
- Ron Allensen, LENSLA
- Adam Roffel, Representing MP Dave VanKesteren
- John Fraser, Representing MPP Monte McNaughton
- Pete & Jackie Cameron, Greening Award Recipient
- Richard Wyma, General Manager, ERCA
- Roy Weaver, Johnson Feduk King Accountants

- Valerie Brannas, West Elgin property owner
- Jenna Allain, Source Protection Coordinator, UTRCA
- Tom Bain, Mayor of the Town of Lakeshore
- Pat Watterworth, West Elgin property owner
- Jordan Gray, Drainage Superintendent, Municipality of Chatham-Kent

6. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (Previously circulated)

2. G. Bogart – J. Wolf

Moved that the minutes of the meeting of December 15, 2016 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

7. Business Arising From the Minutes

Mr. Don Pearson brought the Board members up to date on issues relating to the Harwich Tract parcel owned by MNRF, as discussed at the last meeting. There is no role for the LTVCA in this matter at this time.

8. Business for Approval

8.1) Presentations

8.1.1) 2016 Annual Report, present by Ms. Bonnie Carey

3. T. Thompson – S. Pinsonneault

Moved that the LTVCA's 2016 Annual Report be approved as presented.

CARRIED

8.1.2) 2016 Audited Financial Statements, present by Mr. Roy Weaver

4. D. McKillop – M. Smibert

Moved that the LTVCA's 2016 Audited Financial Statements be approved as presented.

CARRIED

8.2) Election of Officers

Mr. Don Pearson assumed the chair for the elections and declared all elected offices, positions and appointments vacant and outlined the voting procedures.

a) Chair

Mr. Pearson called for nominations for Chair of the LTVCA for 2017.

H. MacDonald nominated L. McKinlay

Mr. Pearson called twice more for nominations. There being no further nominations,

5. J. Kavelaars – G. Bogart

Moved that nominations be closed.

CARRIED

Mrs. L. McKinlay was declared to be elected as Chair.

b) Vice-Chair

Mr. Pearson called for nominations for Vice-Chair of the LTVCA for 2017.

J. Kavelaars nominated H. MacDonald

Mr. Pearson called twice more for nominations. There being no further nominations,

6. S. Pinsonneault – D. McKillop

Moved that nominations be closed.

CARRIED

Mrs. H. MacDonald was declared to be elected as Vice-Chair.

c) Personnel & Finance/Executive Committee (3 members to be elected)

Mr. Pearson called for nominations to the Personnel & Finance/Executive Committee for 2017.

S. Caveney nominated D. McKillop

R. Doane nominated S. Caveney

H. MacDonald nominated J. Kavelaars

Mr. Pearson called twice more for nominations. There being no further nominations,

7. S. Pinsonneault – G. Bogart

Moved that nominations be closed.

CARRIED

Mr. D. McKillop, Mr. S. Caveney & Mr. J. Kavelaars were declared members of the Personnel & Finance/Executive Committee.

d) Ska-Nah-Doht Village Advisory Committee (3 members to be elected)

Mr. Pearson called for nominations to the Ska-Nah-Doht Village Advisory Committee for 2017.

D. McKillop nominated S. Caveney

G. Bogart nominated D. McKillop

D. McKillop nominated G. Bogart

Mr. Pearson called twice more for nominations. There being no further nominations,

8. S. Pinsonneault –J. Wolf

Moved that nominations be closed.

CARRIED

Mr. S. Caveney, Mr. D McKillop & Mrs. G. Bogart were declared members of the Ska-Nah-Doht Village Advisory Committee.

e) Ice Management Committee (2 members to be appointed from the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, plus the member from the Town of Lakeshore). Chair and Vice-Chair are ex-officio.

Mr. Pearson called for nominations to the Ice Management Committee for 2017.

S. Pinsonneault nominated T. Thompson

T. Thompson nominated S. Pinsonneault

Mr. Pearson called twice more for nominations. There being no further nominations,

9. M. Smibert – H. MacDonald

Moved that the following members be appointed to the Ice Management Committee: T. Thompson & S. Pinsonneault.

CARRIED

Following the elections, Mr. Pearson congratulated those elected and turned the chair over to the Vice-Chair, H. MacDonald, to continue with the rest of the meeting.

8.3) 2017 Budget and Levy

10. J. Kavelaars – G. Bogart

Moved that the 2017 proposed budget totalling \$3,097,028 be adopted as presented, and that the matching levy of \$157,807 and the Chatham-Kent Greening, Natural Heritage and Flood Control Levy of \$205,000 be approved and apportioned in accordance with the table accompanying the budget.

CARRIED

11. D. McKillop – T. Thompson

Moved that the non-matching levy of \$1,209,545 be approved and apportioned in accordance with the levy apportionment table. (weighted vote)

CARRIED

8.4) Appointment of Auditor

12. R. Doane – S. Caveney

Moved that the firm of Johnson, Feduk, King Chartered Accountants be appointed as the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority's auditor until the next Annual Meeting in February 2018.

CARRIED

8.5) Appointment of Bank

13. S. Pinsonneault – J. Wolf

Moved that the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce be appointed the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority's bank until the next Annual Meeting in February 2018.

CARRIED

8.6) Appointment of Solicitor

14. G. Bogart – T. Thompson

Moved that the firm of Mr. James D. Wickett be appointed the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority's solicitor until the next Annual Meeting in February 2018.

CARRIED

8.7) Authorization to Borrow

15. R. Doane – M. Smibert

Moved that the Authority Chair or Vice-Chair and the General Manager/Secretary Treasurer be authorized to borrow from the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce a sum not to exceed \$300,000 for the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority and to be repaid from grants received from the Province of Ontario, Government of Canada, levies assessed the member municipalities and self-generated revenues.

CARRIED

8.8) Appointment to Conservation Ontario

16. J. Kavelaars – S. Caveney

Moved that the Linda McKinlay be appointed as Voting Representative; and Don Pearson as 1st Alternative.

CARRIED

8.9) 2017 Board of Directors Meeting Schedule

Thursday, April 20, 2017 – 2:00-4:00 pm, Administration Board Room

Thursday, June 15, 2017 – 5:00-7:00 pm, Administration Board Room

Thursday, August 24, 2017 – 5:00-7:00 pm, Administration Board Room

Thursday, October 19, 2017 – 2:00-4:00 pm, Administration Board Room

Thursday, December 14, 2017 – 2:00-4:00 pm, Administration Board Room

Thursday, February 15, 2018 – 2:00-4:00 pm, Willson Hall, University of Guelph Ridgetown Campus

17. S. Pinsonneault – J. Wolf

Moved that the meeting schedule for 2017 and the Annual General Meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

8.10) Provincial Ground Monitoring Network Well Acquisition

18. S. Pinsonneault – G. Bogart

Moved that the LTVCA Board authorize staff to pursue the acquisition of Well 249, subject to confirmation by the MOECC that the well is deemed valuable for the purposes of the PGMN program, and that the transfer costs are nominal.

CARRIED

8.11) Canada 150 Project

19. D. McKillop – R. Doane

Moved that the LTVCA Board endorses the project: *Improvement of the Ska-Nah-Doht Village*, and authorizes staff to execute the amended agreement for funding under the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program with Fed Dev Ontario, for a non-repayable contribution of \$10,948.

CARRIED

8.12) Longwoods / Ska-Nah-Doht Visioning Project

20. J. Kavelaars – G. Bogart

Moved that LTVCA Board endorse the Longwoods/Ska-Nah-Doht Visioning Project, and that it work cooperatively with the Ska-Nah-Doht Advisory Committee and the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation in a process to determine the needs; scale and scope; and community support for a redevelopment of the Resource Centre, Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum and related facilities within the Longwoods Road Conservation Area.

CARRIED

9. Business for Information

- 9.1) Water Management
- 9.2) Regulations and Planning
- 9.3) Conservation Areas
- 9.4) Conservation Services
- 9.5) Community Relations
- 9.6) Conservation Authority Education
- 9.7) Conservation Ontario 2017 Provincial Pre-Budget Submission

21. M. Smibert – S. Pinsonneault

Moved that report 9.1) through to 9.7) be received for information.

CARRIED

10. Correspondence

- 10.1) Snapping Turtle Harvest in Ontario – UTRCA submission to the EBR

22. T. Thompson – S. Caveney

Moved that LTVCA Board of Directors support the report submitted to the EBR by the UTRCA.

CARRIED

11. Other Business

None declared.


12. Adjournment

23. R. Doane – D. McKillop

Moved that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Hilda MacDonald
Vice Chair



Don Pearson
General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

4.2) Personnel & Finance/Executive Committee Minutes – April 10, 2017

LOWER THAMES VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



PERSONNEL & FINANCE / EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2017

A meeting of the Conservation Authority's Personnel & Finance/Executive Committee was held on Monday, April 10, 2017 at the Authority's Administration Building at 100 Thames Street, Chatham, Ontario at the hour of 10:00 AM. A roll call was held with the following committee members present: L. McKinlay, H. MacDonald & S. Caveney.

Also present were the following staff members: Don Pearson, Jason Homewood & Valerie Towsley.

1. Call to Order

Chair, Linda McKinlay called the meeting of the Personnel & Finance/Executive Committee to order at 10:00 AM.

2. Approval of the Agenda

*1. H. MacDonald – S. Caveney
Adopted the agenda as presented.*

CARRIED

3. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

None declared.

4. Minutes of Meeting of December 15, 2016

*2. S. Caveney – H. MacDonald
Moved to adopt the previous meeting minutes of December 15, 2016.*

CARRIED

3. H. MacDonald – S. Caveney

Moved that the Personnel & Finance/Executive Committee sit as a Hearing Committee.

CARRIED

5. Hearing #1/17 – CA Application No. 20-2017 – Mr. & Mrs. Verzoc c/o D. Scherle & Associates Ltd.

The applicants, Mr. and Mrs. Verzoc, and their builder, Mr. D. Scherle of D. Scherle & Associates Ltd. was in attendance for the hearing. Jason Homewood, Water Resources and Regulations Technician provided the Hearing Committee with a power point presentation regarding this permit. The proponent provided information regarding the project as submitted.

The Hearing Board had numerous questions for staff and the applicant regarding the proposal.

The Chair requested that Mr. and Mrs. Verzoc and Mr. Scherle leave the meeting in order that the Hearing Board could meet in camera.

4. S. Caveney – H. MacDonald

Moved that the Hearing Committee meet 'in camera'.

CARRIED

5. S. Caveney – H. MacDonald

Moved that the Hearing Committee move out of the 'in camera' session.

CARRIED

6. S. Caveney – H. MacDonald

Moved that the proposed works described within permit application #020-2017 with respect to 324 Detroit Line in Wheatley, Ontario not be permitted for the following reasons:

- *Proposed development is entirely located within the critically regulated area along the shoreline and is, in fact, being proposed closer to the hazard and of a significant footprint increase (>20%). Proposed development is located within the erosion hazard allowance alone.*
- *The areas average 100 year erosion rate is the highest in Chatham-Kent.*
- *The south addition would reduce the life expectancy of the structure as it puts it closer to the top-of-bank of the bluff (approximately 58.5 years reduced to approximately 40 years).*
- *Against the LTVCA's policy and operational guidelines.*
- *Against the Provincial Policy Statement (2014).*

CARRIED

7. S. Caveney – H. MacDonald

Moved that the Hearing Committee sit as the Personnel & Finance/Executive Committee.

CARRIED

6. Amazon Associates Program – Funding Opportunity

8. H. MacDonald – S. Caveney

Moved that LTVCA staff review the Amazon Associate Program and set up an online account for Amazon on our website as a source of contributions to the Conservation Authority by the public; and that this feature be advertised to help spread awareness to the general public around this contribution option to help support LTVCA programs and services.

CARRIED

7. Personnel Matter

9. S. Caveney – H. MacDonald

Moved that the Personnel & Finance/Executive Committee meet in closed session to discuss a personnel matter.

CARRIED

10. H. MacDonald – S. Caveney

Moved that the Personnel & Finance/Executive Committee move out of the closed session.

CARRIED

11. S. Caveney – H. MacDonald

Moved that the Personnel & Finance/Executive Committee adopt a recommendation contained in a confidential report and refer the matter to the Board of Directors for consideration in closed session at its meeting on April 20, 2017.

8. Other Business

None noted.

12. S. Caveney – H. MacDonald

Moved that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Linda McKinlay
Chair



Don Pearson
General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

5.1) PGMN Transfer of Well

LTVCA staff met with Chatham-Kent PUC staff on April 5th to confirm that the LTVCA would take over ownership of the property on Shewburg Road that contains Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network (PGMN) well W-249. Chatham-Kent PUC is now consulting legal counsel to see what is required for the transfer of ownership.

5.2) Longwoods / Ska-Nah-Doht Visioning Project

A verbal update of this project will be given at the time of the meeting.

6. Business for Approval

6.1) Presentations

6.1.1) Flood Forecasting and Recent Events

6.1.2) March 8, 2017 Wind Event – Dauphin Line, CK

6.2) Domestic Action Plan, Lake Erie Phosphorous

On March 10th, the Governments of Canada and Ontario released the Draft Action Plan to reduce algal blooms and phosphorous loads in Lake Erie. The document is entitled Partnering in Phosphorus Control: Achieving Phosphorus Reductions in Lake Erie from Canadian Sources and can be found at letstalklakeerie.ca and at ebr.on.gov.ca as posting 012-9971. Comments are being accepted on the draft document until May 9th.

Conservation Authorities, including the LTVCA, have been consulted on numerous occasions, directly, as part of various working groups and as part of broader public consultations. The LTVCA submitted comments on the previous request for public comment, EBR posting 012-8760, both as an individual conservation authority as well as part of consolidated comments from all conservation authorities organized by Conservation Ontario. The LTVCA will also be submitting comments for this recent posting, both individually and as part of the larger collective.

There was a motion recently passed by Chatham-Kent Council, put forward by LTVCA Board of Directors' member Trevor Thompson, in part, directing Chatham-Kent administration to develop a response in support of the draft action plan while outlining their concerns and the ramifications of the plan.

As the agency responsible for local watershed monitoring and as one of the primary delivery agents of stewardship programming, the LTVCA is well informed on this issue. LTVCA staff would like to express their willingness to assist Chatham-Kent administration, and the administration of any other member municipality, with the formulation of their response to this draft action plan.

Recommendation: That the LTVCA Board directs staff to respond to the draft Domestic Action Plan in collaboration with local municipalities and other affected Conservation Authorities.

6.3) Budget vs Revenue and Expenditures for the period ending March 31, 2017

Background:

Review the 2017 Budget to the Revenue and Expenditures for the 3 months ended March 31st, 2017.

Current Situation:

EXPENSES

	2017 BUDGET	2017 BUDGET MAR PROJECTED	2017 ACTUAL TO MAR 31	\$ VARIANCE TO PROJECTED
WATER MANAGEMENT				
FLOOD CONTROL STRUCTURES	254,889	63,722	30,124	(33,598)
EROSION CONTROL STRUCTURES	13,268	3,317	1,671	(1,646)
FLOOD FORECASTING AND WARNING	201,666	50,417	29,004	(21,413)
TECHNICAL STUDIES	28,970	7,243	13,085	5,842
PLANNING & REGULATIONS	196,865	49,216	45,634	(3,582)
WATERSHED MONITORING (PGMN)	76,860	19,215	27,286	8,071
SOURCE PROTECTION	22,768	5,692	14,295	8,603
THAMES MOUTH DEBRIS REMOVAL	1,602	401	0	(401)
Water Management Subtotal	796,888	199,223	161,099	(38,124)
CONSERVATION & RECREATION PROPERTIES				
CONSERVATION AREAS	562,961	140,740	120,974	(19,766)
COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND EDUCATION				
COMMUNITY RELATIONS	154,337	38,584	43,001	4,417
CONSERVATION EDUCATION	95,766	23,942	21,233	(2,709)
SKA-NAH-DOHT VILLAGE	239,394	59,849	44,578	(15,271)
Community Relations & Education Subtotal	489,497	122,375	108,812	(13,563)
CONSERVATION SERVICES/STEWARDSHIP				
CONSERVATION SERVICES (FORESTRY)	133,849	33,462	16,006	(17,456)
CHATHAM-KENT GREENING PROJECT	837,225	209,306	193,937	(15,369)
PHOSPHORUS REDUCTION	276,608	69,152	88,951	19,799
COMMUNITY TREES INITIATIVE	0	0	0	0
Conservation Services/Stewardship Subtotal	1,247,682	311,920	298,894	(13,026)
CAPITAL/MISCELLANEOUS				
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING	0	0	0	0
REPAIRS/UPGRADES	0	0	0	0
UNION GAS CENTENNIAL PROJECT	0	0	0	0
EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS (FED/PROV)	0	0	0	0
Capital/Miscellaneous Subtotal	0	0	0	0
	3,097,028	774,258	689,779	(84,479)

REVENUE

	2017 BUDGET	2017 BUDGET MAR PROJECTED		2017 ACTUAL TO MAR 31	\$ VARIANCE TO PROJECTED
GRANTS	546,900	136,725	*	560,973	424,248
GENERAL LEVY	1,367,352	1,367,352	^	1,041,603	(325,749)
DIRECT SPECIAL BENEFIT	205,000	205,000	^	205,000	0
GENERAL REVENUES	934,174	233,544	*	137,508	(96,036)
FOUNDATION GRANTS & REVENUES	17,000	4,250	*	0	(4,250)
RESERVES	26,602	6,651	*	0	(6,651)
CASH FUNDING	3,097,028	1,953,522		1,945,084	-8,438

*-based on a 3 of 12 month proration of the budget

^-based on cash received to April 10, 2017

Discussion:

Expenses

Water Management expenses are below budget as most large projects and expenses are completed during the summer months.

Note: There are \$19,000 of capital asset expenditures for the Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network not included in this amount. They will be capitalized and amortized over the life of the assets.

Conservation area expenses are similar to Water Management, in that, most large projects, activities and related expenses are completed during the summer months.

Community Relations and Conservation Education are comparable to budget. SKA-NAH-DOHT Museum and Village is under budget as there are several projects planned for the summer months.

Conservation Services(Forestry) and Chatham-Kent Greening expenses are below budget as most activities and related expenses are completed during the spring and summer months. Phosphorous Reduction is above budget due to a new Rondeau Monitoring grant that was not included in the budget, as well as, some expenses related to the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative.

Revenue

Grant income is greater than the prorated budget because of the Rondeau Monitoring Grant, several large grants for wetland and other Rondeau Bay project, the reversal of deferred revenue for on going programs and the timing of grants invoiced.

Levy revenue is shown on a cash basis. The following municipalities are paid in full as of April 10, 2017: Chatham-Kent, Dutton/Dunwich, London and Southwest Middlesex.

General Revenue is lower than the expected budget due to several factors:

- Conservation area revenues are below expected due to the seasonal nature of these areas and a significant amount of revenues for the year earned later in the spring and summer;
- Conservation education and SKA-NAH-DOHT Village revenue is slightly below the prorated budget balances due to the seasonal nature of these programs;
- Conservation Services and the Chatham Kent Greening Project are lower as most activities and income are received later in the spring and into summer;

This is slightly off-set by planning and regulations fees being slightly higher than budget. This is due to the seasonal nature of permits with the spring and summer months being the peak period.

Foundation Grants and Revenues are below budget as the Foundation programs and settlement of these programs occur later in the year.

Reserves are zero as this account is used to balance the accounts at year-end if expenses are greater than revenues.

Recommendation: That the Board of Directors receive the Budget vs Revenue and Expenditures report for the period ended March 31, 2017.

6.4) Property Donation

Myslik property donation

A 100 acre parcel in the Community of Harwich, Municipality of Chatham-Kent is proposed to be donated to the LTVCA. This parcel consists of lands that have been allowed to naturalize, with several dug swales/habitat ponds created through partial funding by MNRF, Ducks Unlimited and the LTVCA.

A wind tower access road by-sects the parcel and as a result, the \$5,000/year easement payment from Pattern Wind Energy will be part of the agreement with the LTVCA receiving the payments moving forward. In exchange, the landowner will receive a tax receipt for the appraised value of the land with an additional appraisal value to include the \$5,000 easement payment for a maximum of 20 years.

Recommendation: That the Board of Directors agree to accept this donation.



7. Business for Information

7.1) Water Management

Flood Forecasting and Operations

There have been two significant events from a Flood Forecasting and Operations perspective since the Annual General Meeting in February.

The first was a wind event that caused some localized shoreline flooding on Erie Shore Drive in Chatham-Kent on March 8th. Generally speaking, the LTVCA issues advisories for lake shoreline flooding when advised by the Provincial Surface Water Monitoring Centre (SWMC). The SWMC has in-house lake flood forecasting models that it uses to develop these predictions. However, the LTVCA also has its own criteria under which it would issue advisories. Such a scenario typically includes sustained gale force winds and water levels 0.3 m below the record highs of 1985/86. On March 8th, the gale force winds occurred but water levels were not high enough to trigger the issuance of an advisory. It appears that the localized flooding was partly due to improper land grading in the area, rendering the drainage infrastructure ineffective. This event triggered significant discussion on social media.

The second event occurred on March 30th. On that day, the lower Thames watershed received 40 to 50 mm of rainfall. This was enough to trigger operations of the Indian-McGregor Creek Diversion Channel for 2.5 days. However, the upper Thames watershed received substantially less rain and there was only some minor flooding in the low lying river flats along the Thames River itself.

Flood Forecasting and Operations will be further discussed in a presentation at this meeting.

Water Control Structures

Construction activities at Highways 401 and 40 have again impacted the gauge station on McGregor Creek. In addition to the water level gauge itself, there is a weir control structure at this location. The weir provides a stable channel geometry which is required to develop a rating curve (the relationship between water level and flow rate). The construction of a platform underneath the bridge over McGregor Creek had accidentally damaged the weir which collapsed on January 14th. As such, there is no longer a valid rating curve for this location.

Water Survey of Canada and LTVCA staff are working with the MTO and their construction team to get the weir repaired. However, it will need to wait until water levels on McGregor Creek recede from spring levels to summer levels. The repair could also be complicated by the fact that the stretch of McGregor Creek is flagged as potential Species at Risk mussel habitat. Proper functioning of this station and a good rating curve are important for two reasons. First, this gauge is used to determine when to operate the Indian-McGregor Creek Diversion Channel. Second, the flow measurements are combined with water quality measurements to determine the total mass (loadings) of various parameters important to water quality, such as phosphorus. As this is the only tributary in the Lower Thames with flow measurements (other than a recently installed temporary project on Big Creek), flows and loadings from this site are used to extrapolate across the watershed.

Low Water Response Program

The LTVCA participates in the Provincial Low Water Response Program as part of a team made up of local stakeholders and agency staff charged with managing the local response to drought conditions. Low Water Conditions are determined based on several indicators including; 3 month rainfall, 18 month rainfall and monthly flows in the watercourses. Under the program, a Low Water Condition is considered to exist when any one of the indicators meets the threshold values.

The Lower Thames River watershed had been in a Level 1 Low Water Condition since September of last year. Calculations performed for March indicated that the region has been lifted out of the Low Water Condition. Typical late winter and spring rains have raised water levels to near normal or above normal.

Provincial (Surface) Water Quality Monitoring Network (PWQMN)

Typically, the Provincial (Surface) Water Quality Monitoring Program (PWQMN) only collects samples between April and November at 11 stations (8 per month) on watercourses throughout the Lower Thames watershed. Starting last year, a Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) grant has allowed us to supplement this sampling so that 21 locations are now being monitored per month. Throughout the winter, sampling at the full 21 station was being funded by the MOECC grant. Starting this month, the PWQMN program will once again pick up sampling 8 stations per month.

Recent rain event based sampling on March 17th confirms that watercourses in the Lower Thames watershed suffer from elevated phosphorous levels associated with rain events. The Provincial Water Quality Objective for watercourses is 0.03 mg/L. For this sampling event, all 20 sites exceeded the objective, 16 sites exceeded 0.3 mg/L, 13 sites exceeded 1 mg/L and 2 sites exceeded 3 mg/L.

Thames River Clearwater Revival

The Steering Committee of the Thames River Clear Water Revival met on March 3rd. The primary topic of discussion was the structure of the Water Management Plan moving forward in light of the recent International Joint Commission Workshop on Watershed Management Plans. Minutes of the meetings are posted to the Thames River Clear Water Revival website.

Information Technology Upgrades

There are no updates at this time.

Drinking Water Source Protection (Source Water Protection)

There are no updates at this time.

7.2) Regulations and Planning

Planning and Regulations Policy Update– timeline

As a result of other planning items that needed immediate attention, the date of the Policy draft being completed has now shifted from the end of March to the first of May. All other components from the February meeting will occur, with the link to the website to be sent out to member municipalities, ministry agencies, surrounding CA's, NGO's and business contacts such as the construction and consultant industries that we deal with on a regular basis for input and feedback for a commenting period during the month of May. It is hoped that a final draft will be available for the June meeting for review by the Board of Directors, with full approval of the document being undertaken in August.

Section 28 Regulations Update

Staff have reviewed a total of 66 permit applications as of 31 March 2017. This is a 40% increase compared to 2016 where staff had reviewed a total of 47 permit applications in the same time period. Given that 2016 set an all-time record for number of permit applications, it leaves one to wonder how 2017 will pan out. Of the 66 permit applications, 65 have been approved by staff and the remaining one went before the Executive Committee on 10 April 2017 for a Hearing. Below are some quick statistics for 2017 Section 28 regulations as of 31 March 2017:

- 77% of applications have been within the Municipality of Chatham-Kent;
- 45% of applications have been for private property owners;
- 33% of applications have been for municipal drain alterations;
- Five habitat/stewardship applications have been received/approved with their fees waived;
- 216 general property inquiries (telephone count only) have been received and responded to;
- 1,206 e-mails received and 777 e-mails sent; and,
- Total collected permit application fees = \$15,450.00.

Section 28 Enforcement

Three Section 28 enforcement issues have arisen in 2017 as of 31 March 2017. One of which involved a very minor addition on a structure within a regulated area (flood fringe) without a permit from the LTVCA (nor was a permit obtained from the Municipality of Chatham-Kent's building department). The other two are related to the destruction of provincially significant wetlands ("North Rodney Woodlot") on two separate properties in West Elgin. One of the properties also included the alteration of a watercourse (re-alignment and infilling of the existing municipal drain) without the permission of the Municipality of West Elgin, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (federal), nor the LTVCA. Notices of violation have been issued and LTVCA staff are working with the landowners to obtain and ensure compliance with our regulation.

APP#	LOCATION	COMMUNITY/ TOWNSHIP	MUNICIPALITY	APP'N TYPE	DECISION
023-2017	11729 River Line	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: Feb 03, 2017
024-2017	Buller Drain	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: Feb 02, 2017
025-2017	4th Concession Drain	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: Feb 06, 2017
026-2017	Griffen Drain	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: Feb 07, 2017
027-2017	Alvin Jones Drain	Caradoc	Strathroy-Caradoc	Alteration	Granted: Feb 08, 2017
028-2017	18304 Erie Shore Drive	Erie Shore Drive	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: Feb 09, 2017
029-2017	10103 Longwoods Road	Delaware	Middlesex Centre	Alteration	Granted: Feb 09, 2017
030-2017	9123 Indian Creek Line	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: Feb 09, 2017
031-2017	Langstaff Drain	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: Feb 14, 2017
032-2017	Dover Transmission Station	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: Feb 15, 2017
033-2017	107 Brook Street	Shrewsbury	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: Feb 15, 2017
034-2017	Wilson Drain	Orford	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: Feb 15, 2017
035-2017	8 Devon Drive	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: Feb 17, 2017
036-2017	6539 Riverview Line	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: Feb 22, 2017
037-2017	18094 Erie Shore Drive	Erie Shore Drive	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: Feb 21, 2017
038-2017	Payne and Backus Drain	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: Feb 21, 2017
039-2017	10981 River Line	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: Feb 22, 2017
040-2017	6228 St. Philippe Line	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: Feb 23, 2017
041-2017	24688 Poppe Road	Tilbury East	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: Feb 24, 2017
042-2017	Buchanan Drain	Tilbury West	Lakeshore	Alteration	Granted: Feb 24, 2017
043-2017	Marsh Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Alteration	Granted: Feb 24, 2017
044-2017	J. Leitch Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Alteration	Granted: Feb 24, 2017
045-2017	6784 Riverview Line	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: Feb 27, 2017
046-2017	86 & 88 Victoria Street	Thamesville	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: Mar 01, 2017
047-2017	11003 River Line	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: Mar 06, 2017
048-2017	21040 Pier Road	Wheatley	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: Mar 06, 2017
049-2017	Carter Drain	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: Mar 06, 2017
050-2017	Newby Drain	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: Mar 06, 2017
051-2017	Newby Drain	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: Mar 13, 2017
052-2017	21837 Pioneer Line	Aldborough	West Elgin	Construction	Granted: Mar 13, 2017
053-2017	North of 21882 Marsh Line	Aldborough	West Elgin	Construction	Granted: Mar 13, 2017
054-2017	20359 Communication Road	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: Mar 13, 2017
055-2017	10917 River Line	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: Mar 13, 2017
056-2017	1 Priscilla Street	Thamesville	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: Mar 15, 2017
057-2017	Stevenson Drain	Ekfrid	Southwest Middlesex	Alteration	Granted: Mar 13, 2017
058-2017	18098 Erie Shore Drive	Erie Shore Drive	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: Mar 13, 2017
059-2017	19025 Haven Avenue	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Construction	Granted: Mar 13, 2017
060-2017	19050 Haven Avenue	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Construction	Granted: Mar 13, 2017
061-2017	18080 Erie Shore Drive	Erie Shore Drive	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: Mar 13, 2017
062-2017	20349 Communication Road	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: Mar 14, 2017
063-2017	West Branch of the Bell or Crawford Drain	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: Mar 14, 2017
064-2017	Town Line over Rivard Drain	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: Mar 17, 2017
065-2017	20200 Tecumseh Road	Tilbury West	Lakeshore	Construction	Granted: Mar 22, 2017
066-2017	21678 Communication Road	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: Mar 23, 2017

Recommendation: That applications 023-2017 to 066-2017 be ratified.

7.3) Conservation Areas

January 1 –March 31 Visitation / Camping Stats

Longwoods Road Conservation Area – 1,013 people (1,411 in 2016) (Includes 2 people per pay & display permit (transaction) Pay and Display Permits - 321 vehicles (229 in 2016)

E.M. Warwick Conservation Area – 160 people (280 in 2016)

Big Bend Conservation Area – 0 people (0 in 2016)

C.M. Wilson Conservation Area – 176 people (174 in 2016) (Includes 2 people per pay & display permit (transaction) Pay and Display Permits – 88 vehicles (87 in 2016)

Season's Day Use Permits: sold in 2017 so far: 21

Conservation Areas updates

McGeachy Pond Conservation Area - a prescribed burn was conducted at this wetland area on March 22, 2017. Like most wetland areas the invasive tall reed grass *Phragmites Australis* has inundated this area. Wildfire Services was contracted to conduct the burn, which will be followed by raising the water level to “drown out” the reed or a spraying of glyphosate to further deter establishment.

CM Wilson Conservation Area - staff have been working on many upgrades including: canoe and bicycle rentals, new volleyball court, updated signage, new table and countertop in the Barn, new countertop, mirrors, paint, ceramic tile in campground washrooms.



CM Wilson Barn has been painted, new barn quilt and arbour created to tap into the wedding rental market.

Big “O” Conservation Area - Brookfield Energy to sponsor May 7th birding event. Guided hike hosted by area naturalist Paul Pratt, wild bird release by Wings Avian Rehabilitation Centre, and live raptor demo followed by lunch at Iron Kettle Bed and Breakfast.

Sharon Creek Conservation Area - MacKay Meters – pay as you go phone app allows park users to pay \$5/ day through their cell phone or have option to purchase seasons pass. Other CA's across Ontario are implementing this program to generate dollars for properties that get a great deal of day use. Sharon Creek Conservation Area will be test pilot for this application.

Skunk's Misery - a joint news release was issued by the OPP for the ongoing ATV and 4-wheel drive trespassing issues at this sensitive site.



Ontario Provincial Police
Police provinciale de l'Ontario

News Release/ Communiqué

FROM/DE: Middlesex County OPP

DATE: April 6, 2017

AREA OF NATURAL AND SCIENTIFIC INTEREST UNDER THREAT BY A.T.V. TRESPASSERS

(WARDSVILLE, ON) – The Middlesex County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) working in partnership with the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority would like help from the public in identifying and preventing trespassers on All Terrain Vehicles (A.T.V.) from destroying protected property in Southwest Middlesex, Ontario, near Sassafras Road and Centreville Drive.

Mosa Forest is a 300 acre parcel of property owned and managed by the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority. The parcel of land is considered an "Area of Natural and Scientific Interest". Due to its size it is considered the largest Carolinian Forest south of London, Ontario. It also is home to a number of species at risk.

Over the past couple days, trespassers have cut down wire fences and driven A.T.V.s and Jeeps through the forest. A great deal of damage has been caused to the forest floor and has certainly stressed the wildlife living in the forest. This illegal activity also deprives citizens of the lawful use and enjoyment of the forest for hiking.

The Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority has partnered with the Municipal Enforcement Unit and the Middlesex County OPP to prevent repeat acts of trespassing and vandalism from occurring.

Police encourage anyone with information to come forward immediately. Should you wish to remain anonymous you may call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or submit a tip online to www.londoncrimestoppers.com where you may be eligible for a cash reward of up to \$2,000.

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Contact: Liz Melvin
E-mail: liz.melvin@opp.ca

www.opp.ca

MEU Enforcement – Section 29



Lower Thames Conservation Authority

Enforcement Report

Dated April 04/2017

MEU has conducted several patrols and one operation to survey a few of the troubled areas where we are having problems with ATV's.

- Skunks Misery
- Rowsom
- Big Bend

MEU had an officer on a Dirt bike enter each of the above areas to survey the damage by wearing a camera on his helmet. The video footage was very revealing about the conditions especially at Skunks Misery. This location will require a lot of rehabilitation work to repair the damage done.

We did publish on Facebook some shame videos supplied to us by a property owner near Rowsom, of various parties on ATVs on the owners property and LTVCA property. This has seemed to curb the activity at this location and we did get a few tips on possible persons who may be in violation. It would appear that the party area observed has been cleaned up, there is some rehabilitation work mainly clean-up and signage needed at this location.

Overall at all sites the ATV activity is down at least 65% from when we started patrols of the area and we now have developed a good intelligence network and are monitoring various groups and also the locals in the area have been very helpful.

Hopefully the patrols and word getting out about the MEU being around is starting to curb this activity.

Sign Survey:

MEU has started to conduct surveys of all properties to ensure that signage is appropriate for each of the locations and is making recommendations to ensure the LTVCA is meeting certain standards such as the

Highway Traffic Act especially when it references movement of traffic on sites and also safety and education and warning signs.

Longwoods we released a report with recommendations for signage at this location, also there were some other considerations such as possible camera system for security and monitoring and some improvements to gates and other items. ***(See Attachment #1)***

This work is being done in consultation with LTVCA Staff and one suggestion that we may wish to look at in the future is a Policy for signage for the LTVCA. Staff has found several other Conservation Authorities have a sign policy. My suggestion is we look at least three and pick out the best policies and ideas to create our own policy there is no reason to reinvent the wheel as they say.

We also will be placing some of these signs at various locations to ensure the general public know who to contact if they see something and they will also serve as a deterrent for illegal activity at LTVCA properties. ***(See Attachment #2)***

Other Matters:

LTVCA Staff reported they had received some complaints about dogs being off leash at various locations but the main location being Sharon Creek. MEU conducted several patrols and warned several parties in total 27 and have seen a steep decline in this problem since the patrols, we also patrolled CM Wilson and found 9 persons with their dogs, 6 were off leash and were spoken to about their responsibility as dog owners. One thing noticed at some locations is signage may be needed while other locations have ample signage.

MEU is also involved and consulting on the Pay for parking project and has made some suggestions as for signage and enforcement.

Also a discussion is taking place in developing a warning Notice for section 29 violations so we can give a person something to show the violation and document the interaction. This keeps records for accountability and also helps with future prosecution if needed.

MEU will continue to survey all LTVCA properties while on patrols and make recommendations and work with staff to improve the above items.

END REPORT

Attachment #1



SIGN SURVEY

LOWER THAMES CONSERVATION

03/27/2017

LONGWOODS RD (Ska-Nah-Doht)

MEU conducted a sign survey of this location in order to ensure proper traffic movement and public safety for people that use the facility. Proper Signage also helps members of the public in direction and regulation that would apply to the use of a facility.

Front Gate Area

MEU is aware that there are plans to change the branding signs at the front gate area, but the gate and entrance need maintained to ensure public perception and also for security reasons, suggest either a rework of the old gate and update and or replacing the gate.

- A better sign outline hours of operation
- A speed limit sign for 20km/h should be posted before they reach the pay for parking



Sample 1



Sample 2

We may wish to add to the first sign BEGINS underneath.

Also the Public entering the facility in vehicles should be warned by this type of sign to ensure safety of person walking etc. These signs can placed at other locations throughout facility in are of parking and buildings.



ATV & Snow Mobiles ETC.

There should be a clear signage at any and all entrances to the facility



Sample 1



Sample 2

Pay for Parking area and Building

The two poles protecting the Machine should be painted yellow with some reflective stripes

Clear signage up for requiring them to pay for parking and that the area is patrolled and failure could result in ticketing and or towing of a vehicle



Sample that is required by law for any enforcement, remove private property portion.

Also we could place another parking station near the parking area if needed for those who do not pay attention plus the following sign to remind person using the facility.



Sample

This will work for all pay and park systems that the LTVCA this will basically ensure they have paid or have there pass on display where staff or enforcement officers can see it.

ROADS and TRAILS

We notice several signs that should be replaced to reflect the current Highway Traffic Act and also to bring the signage up to date for Traffic movement within the facility.

There are several signs for keeping to the right for vehicle traffic we would suggest one of the following.

Sharp Right Turns & Left Turns



SPEED SIGNS

Let alone the one at the front gate area there should be several speed signs throughout the facility.

20Km/H is the limit within facility



Sample

KEEP TO RIGHT SINAGE (Traffic Movement)

MEU noticed there were several locations where these signs are needed throughout the facility we have include a couple of sample sign which are close to HTA and are recognized.



Sample 1



Sample 2

These signs need to be posted at several locations and should be of a good size so the general public knows what is expected of them when driving a vehicle into the facility.

ANIMAL CROSSINGS and or CAUTIONS

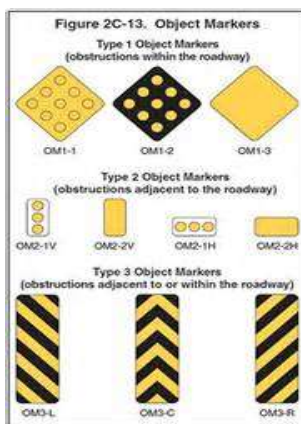
MEU noticed several locations warning to watch out for Turtles and wildlife in the area and in facility.



We could add caution Watch for Turtles

ROAD & TRAIL MARKERS

MEU Noticed several areas where the roads were outlined with markers and or certain drains etc are marked we would suggest more visible and user friendly markers so person know where they are driving and to stay away or be aware of certain locations.



Sample 1



Sample 2

These would be posted on metal poles and we can designate colors for certain needs. There are also plastic flexible markers that can be used for this purpose.

HANDICAP PARKING (AREA)

There are provincial requirements under provincial legislation for how many spots that are required and acceptable signage and marking and amount of spaces.

For the size of the facility 3 to 4 spots are required by law and person should realize that the mandated fine from the province is \$300.00. The signage should be larger than currently at the location.



This is proper color and universal in meaning maybe some road markers to outline the area and ensure the signs are clearly visible.

OTHER SIGNAGE

MEU noticed several areas throughout the facility where the public not enter and or should be aware they are restricted areas. Here are some samples of suggested signage for various areas.



Also at various locations throughout the facility these signs should be placed and it would be suggesting that LYVCA staff pick one of the following to be used at all Parks/lands.

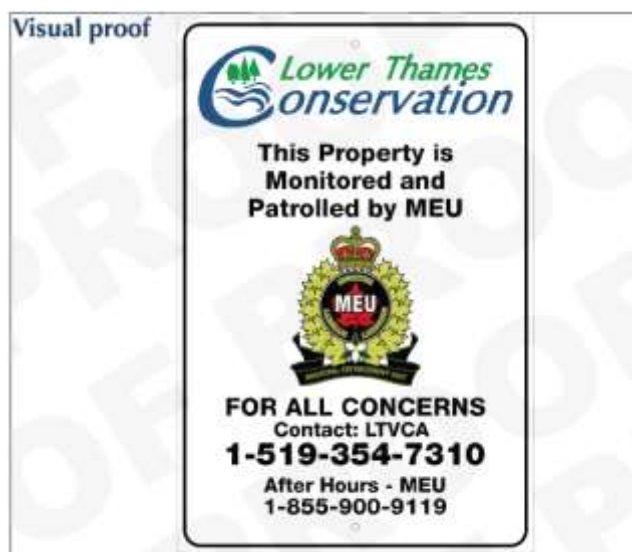
DOGS/ANIMALS



The above signs throughout the report are just suggested from general observations of MEU officers while on patrol throughout this facility. We would recommend that a meeting be held with LTVCA staff to discuss this report and also discuss any further issues that we may not be aware of or have not addressed.

End Report

Attachment #2



7.4) Conservation Services

LAND STEWARDSHIP

Partnerships and Public Areas:

The Tree of the year give away is set for April 22nd. Ironwood, Sugar Maple, Kentucky coffee tree, and Chinquapin Oak are the species available this year. There are a total of 627 participants registered.

Acer and the Riparian Rangers are partnering with us and the Scouts from camp Cataraqui to plant white pine pods on the Clear Creek 140 ac restoration site.

The ***Aamjiwnaang First Nation*** is assisting with the Former Gravel Pit Restoration in Clear Creek Forest this spring.

Current partners include:

- Chatham-Kent Public Health
- All our member Municipalities
- Ducks Unlimited
- Great Lakes Community Eco Initiative
- Forests Ontario
- Ontario Power Generation
- Wildlife Habitat Canada
- Carolinian Canada Coalition
- Ontario Native Scape
- Enbridge
- MNRF
- MOECC
- DFO
- OMAFRA
- OSCIA

Private Lands:

Tree Planting:

We are gearing up for another full seedling season with 130,000 trees on order for spring 2017. Delivery should be the last week of April from Sommerville, and Pineneedle nurseries. There are 32 private land projects which will be implemented. The advertisement campaign was successful. Over 200 landowners are registered to receive trees. We had 4 signs across the watershed on highways 2 and 3. We also had a successful stewardship evening with Mathis Natvik as a guest speaker at Country View Golf Course.

Wetlands:

Two of the 14 wetland projects for 2017 have been completed. We will continue to excavate as weather permits.

Tall Grass Prairie:

Approximately 48 acres of prairie projects have been planned for 2017 in the watershed.

Rondeau Wetland Monitoring

COA agreement with OMAFRA involves taking water samples at 9 wetlands in the Rondeau Bay Watershed. 2 part time staff positions have been created to conduct the field sampling which has already begun. Information captured will assist agencies with understanding the role that wetlands play in capturing excess nutrients from agricultural run-off.

Species at Risk Drainage Biologist

LTVCA staff had their first meeting at the Canada Centre for Inland Waters with Department of Fisheries and Oceans in Burlington to discuss the Species at Risk-Section 11 Agreement. Five DFO team members discussed current research projects, initiatives and challenges they have been experiencing with implementing aquatic species at risk recovery strategies. Information was shared between both agencies and a framework was developed for moving forward with the agreement. The Section 11 agreement will be the first of its kind in Canada; DFO has requested that LTVCA staff meet once a month over 2017 to develop a 5 year plan for the authority, which could result in up to 5 new staff for LTVCA.

The LTVCA is entering its final year of Eco Action funding which has assisted with funding native vegetated buffers within the Rondeau Bay Subwatershed. Currently 50 acres of tallgrass prairie planting are enrolled for planting throughout the watershed in 2017. There is also still growing concern with invasive Phragmites and options are being discussed with community groups and staff on how best to implement control projects.

Lindsay Bennett has accepted a position with the Windsor Bridge Authority to be their SAR specialist during the construction of the new US / Canada bridge crossing. As a result current staff will carry out her remaining projects, and in the meantime look to hire a replacement by this upcoming summer.

First Nations

The Delaware Nation was successful in its application to the Aboriginal Species at Risk Fund. The project will provide \$50,000 towards Thames River restoration activities, which includes: traditional knowledge surveys, prioritizing sites for restoration, host education workshops and implementing grass buffers, shrubs and trees plantings along the Thames River. Staff member Darren Jacobs will be taking the lead on this partnership.

OMAFRA

GLASI Jeannette's Creek Update:

It has been a busy winter/spring this year for sampling the pump stations. We have already surpassed the total amount of samples/events that we captured all of last year. So far in 2017, we have gotten 62 samples from Dauphin, 41 from Deary and 60 samples from Boudreau analyzed by Caduceon Laboratories. We have also taken 9 upstream grab samples during significant rain events.

On March 7, 2017 we hired divers from Watech Services Inc. who helped install an area velocity flow meter in the discharge pipe at the Deary pump station. The reason we had to hire the divers was because the discharge

pipe has been submerged in Jeanette's creek due to high water levels. With the flow meter installed, all three monitoring stations at the pump houses are fully automated.

On March 8, 2017 we had quite a significant wind event, where a big plume of sediment was seen blowing from the west of Tilbury to the east of Chatham. Some of the blowing sediment began to settle in one of our monitoring subwatersheds – the Dauphin pumping scheme. Soil samples were taken on ditch banks – which are being analyzed by OMAFRA and we are currently waiting on the Water Quality results.

We have had two significant rain events in the month of March, and we sampled both events at our pump stations and the edge of field. The March 1st rain event, we received about 22mm in the watershed, which showed the highest Ortho-Phosphate, Organic Phosphorus, and Total Phosphorus to date.

The LTVCA was successful in obtaining an additional \$80,846.70 from the OSCIA Great Lakes Agricultural Stewardship Initiative for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. The additional funds were used to purchase new instrumentation for the Jeanette's Creek monitoring network and to offset staffing and administration costs associated with the project. The new equipment includes telemetry for the Dauphin pump station and heat-trace for the winter so our water intake lines do not freeze. We were also able to get a new upstream monitoring station equipped with a new stainless steel enclosure, ISCO auto-sampler, a data logger with GOES telemetry, tipping bucket rain gauge, turbidity sensor, batteries and a solar panel for power. This will be installed upstream from the Deary pump station within the next couple months.

Edge of Field BMPV

We have started sampling at our edge of field stations, and have captured three significant rain events. All samples have been sent to Ivan O'Halloran at U of G Ridgetown campus for analysis, and we are currently awaiting the results.

On March 9, 2017 we were able to get the telemetry set up for our Hach Flo-totes – which is measuring the flow in the tile drains. With having our flow/level/temperature/conductivity online – we can view the current status of the tile drains and download remotely. Two more Flo-totes have been ordered for the remaining two plots – and will be installed before the end of the month.

McLean's Conservation Lands Update:

No samples have been taken this year, due to a broken float in the pump house. We have been in contact with Steve Clark from SCRCA to notify us when the float for the automatic pump is fixed and operating. We purchased telemetry for the ISCO, so we will be able to control the ISCO remotely and we will be able to view when the pump is running.

7.5) Community Relations

• **Media releases** are written as needed to focus attention on Conservation Authority programs and services. They are emailed to local print and radio media, watershed politicians, LTVCA and LTVCF Directors, member municipalities of the LTVCA (Clerks, Councils, CAO's), Ska-Nah-Doht Village Advisory Committee, LTVCA staff, neighbouring Conservation Authorities and Conservation Ontario.

Seven media releases have been written/distributed as of Feb.3, 2016
(see attached)

- Join Us at the LTVCA Stewardship Night - Guest Speaker Mathis Natvik! – Feb.3, 2017
- 2017 CK Free Tree Program – Feb.15, 2017
- LTVCA Holds Annual General Meeting – Feb.17, 2107
- Stewardship Services Open House – Feb. 21, 2017
- Come on out to Longwoods this March Break! – Mar.1, 2017
- National Park Passes vs LTVCA Season's Day Use Permits – Mar. 14
- Go Wild Grow Wild 2017 Expo – Apr.4, 2017

All Directors were emailed a copy of the above media releases and as well, they were posted on our website, Facebook and Twitter. Local watershed media contacts (daily and weekly print, television and radio stations) database update is ongoing.

Media Release
For Immediate Release
February 3, 2017

"Funding assistance available for wetlands, parks and tree planting!"
Join Us at the LTVCA Stewardship Night - Guest Speaker Mathis Natvik!

Come join the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority staff at our **Stewardship Night in Chatham-Kent** on Tuesday, February 28, 2017 from 7 - 10 pm at the Country View Golf Course in Dover Centre.

The evening will feature special guest speaker Mathis Natvik, who worked on the campaign to secure Clear Creek Forest in Chatham-Kent. Find out about funding assistance that is available for wetlands, parks and reforestation projects on properties in Chatham-Kent larger than 1 acre. We have over 25 tree species available for spring planting! Place orders no later than March 15!

Light snacks will be provided, along with a cash bar and door prizes! For further information on tree species availability, pricing and other land stewardship opportunities, please come check us out at the Country View Golf Course.

Country View Golf Course is located at 25883 St Clair Rd, Dover Centre

Contact us:
Tel: 519-254-7310
Greg Van Every Ext.228 Greg.VanEvery@ltvca.ca
Liam Lalor Ext.229 Liam.Lalor@ltvca.ca

www.ltvca.ca

-30-

100 Thomas Street, Chatham, ON N7L2W6 • www.ltvca.ca
Phone: 519-254-7310 • Fax: 519-254-7426 • E-mail: admin@ltvca.ca

Media Release
For Immediate Release
February 15, 2017

**Chatham-Kent Tree of the Year
2017 Free Tree Program**

Chatham-Kent – The Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority (LTVCA) is pleased to announce that starting February 15th, we are bringing back the former Chatham-Kent Free Tree program. The first 500 CK residents to sign up will receive a large stock tree for free! Species available include Ironwood, Sugar Maple and Kentucky Coffee. You are encouraged to apply as soon as possible as this is first come first served.

YOU MUST PROPERLY REGISTER TO RECEIVE A TREE – those who provide missing or wrong information will be disqualified. To properly register you must provide in your email:

1. Email subject line must read: FREE TREE
2. Full Name
3. Full mailing address including postal code
4. Phone number

To register email: FreeTreePGM@ltvca.ca

The pick up date and location for the free trees is Saturday, April 15 at C.M. Wilson Conservation Area, 21795 Fargo Rd, Berhain. Trees will be bare root so please bring your own garbage bag. Residents can sign up by going to our website www.ltvca.ca and selecting the Free Tree Program button on the home page and follow instructions.

Trees must be planted on own property and comply with Municipal setbacks. Remember to call or go online to Ontario 1 Call before you dig: www.on1call.com or 1-800-400-2225.

For more program information or inquiries contact:

Greg Van Every
Environmental Project Coordinator
Greg.VanEvery@ltvca.ca
519-254-7310 ext. 228
www.ltvca.ca

Liam Lalor
Land Stewardship Technician
Liam.Lalor@ltvca.ca
519-254-7310 ext. 228

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100 Thomas Street, Chatham, ON N7L2W6 • www.ltvca.ca
Phone: 519-254-7310 • Fax: 519-254-7426 • E-mail: admin@ltvca.ca

Media Release
For Immediate Release
February 11, 2017

"Conservation Authority Budget Approved for 2017"
LTVCA Holds Annual General Meeting



Ridgeway – The Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority (LTVCA) held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on February 10 at the University of Guelph Ridgeway Campus in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent. Linda McKinlay was elected as Chair and Hilts MacDonald as Vice-Chair for 2017. Mrs. McKinlay is a Municipal Councillor for the Town of Lakeshore and Mrs. MacDonald is Deputy Mayor of the Municipality of Leamington.

The 2017 budget of \$2,007,628 received approval at the AGM. The budget represents an increase of \$71,098 or 3.5% in overall spending in comparison to the 2016 approved budget of \$1,936,530. The corresponding increase in the municipal levy is \$2,874 or 2.14%. The 16 member municipalities of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority include Chatham-Kent, Dunn, Durham, Lakeshore, Leamington, London, Middlesex Centre, Southwest Middlesex, Southwold, Stoney-Caledon and West Elgin. Chatham-Kent appoints three representatives to the LTVCA Board while the remaining nine municipalities appoint one representative each for up to a three-year term.

Guest Speaker Bobb Gilgour (author) - Species at Risk Biologist with the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority provided an informative presentation on an ongoing at Risk in Southwestern Ontario. His presentation was followed by the Government's Environmental Award for Landowner Stewardship, presented to Peter and Jacqueline Carones, and Dan and Chris Peller.

The 2016 Annual Report emphasized the benefits of the investment in the food system structures of the lower Thames watershed and the increasing of watershed conditions over the past year. Additional highlights of the year included the LTVCA undertaking 1,854 regulatory and municipal permit-review services, the provision of \$222,000 of stewardship grant assistance to 200 landowners, the planting of 123,880 trees, and the initial installation of 152 beehives. 747 youth had one of the Invasive Plant Program Activities were installed; 23 hectares of wetlands were created and 15 hectares of boggrass prairie were planted. Eight thousand students engaged in the LTVCA's education programs and over 14,000 people enjoyed camping at 4 conservation authority campgrounds in 2016.

Also recognized were the more than 700 volunteers who gave 5,500 hours of their time and the 42 funding partners of the Conservation Authority that provided an additional \$2.1M for watershed conservation. In the words of Vice-Chair Hilts MacDonald: "The guest list of the annual meeting of the LTVCA is a fine example of how well the Conservation Authority works with its community partners. From municipal leaders, to provincial agencies, to concerned and affected residents, to hobby partners, all shared in the support of the LTVCA by attending the event."

For further information, please contact:
Don Brinkman, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer
Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority
Tel: 519-284-2420 (Administration Office)
info@ltvca.ca www.ltvca.ca



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300 Harris Street, Chatham, ON N7C 2T6 • www.ltvca.ca
Phone: 519-284-2420 • Fax: 519-833-2422 • Email: info@ltvca.ca

Stewardship Services Open House

February 22nd 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

At the **Middlesex Federation of Agriculture Hall**

633-4 Lions Park Drive, Mount Brydges

To meet our staff and learn about our programs and partnerships to help you put trees, tallgrass prairie, wetlands, and other conservation projects on your property.



FOR MORE INFORMATION – CONTACT:

Dan Brinkman
Land Stewardship Technician (Eastern Division)
Longwoods Road Conservation Area, Mount Brydges
dan.brinkman@ltvca.ca
519 280 2027

Media Release
For Immediate Release
March 1, 2017

"Guided Hikes and Tours Offered"
Come on out to Longwoods this March Break!



Mount Brydges – Looking for something to do with the kids over March Break? Why not step into nature and get some fresh air and exercise at Longwoods Road Conservation Area and the Skat-Nah-Doh Village & Skyjumps!

Located just a half hour west of London or an hour east of Chatham, families can enjoy a guided nature hike or a tour of Skat-Nah-Doh Village. From March 15-17, these activities will begin at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. sharp. Each hike or tour is one hour. Cost is \$4 per vehicle, coin or credit card at the pay and display machine located at the exhibit/gatehouse.

No need to pre-register! Simply gather at the Resource Centre at one of these times and meet up with an LTVCA staff who will be your guide. Dress for the outdoors as you could be outside for an hour. Bring a picnic lunch (no food available on-site) to eat at a picnic table outside or in a cabin beside a cozy, warm woodstove. Please note that children must be supervised by parents or guardians at all times. Children without adult supervision cannot take part in guided hikes or tours.

Discover the wonders of nature as spring wakes up along our beautiful woodland and wetland trails, bridges and boardwalks. Imagine what it was like 1,000 years ago to live in a longhouse! See museum artifacts of long ago. The park is open daily from 9 a.m. until sunset and the building is open on Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Longwoods Road Conservation Area and Skat-Nah-Doh Village & Museum are located at 8346 Longwoods Road (Mount Brydges), just 6.5 km west of Delaware or 10 km east of Melbourne.

For further information please contact:
(519) 284-2420
info@ltvca.ca www.ltvca.ca



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300 Harris Street, Chatham, ON N7C 2T6 • www.ltvca.ca
Phone: 519-284-2420 • Fax: 519-833-2422 • Email: info@ltvca.ca

Are Lower Thames Valley Conservation Areas (parks) free in 2017?



No, they're not.

If you entered the FREE 2017 Parks Canada Discovery Pass in celebration of our country's 150th anniversary, you'll have an incredible time exploring Canada's national park system.

Before you head that pass on the river and head out to explore the many natural wonders that our country has to offer, you should know the difference between our national parks and the many great conservation areas within the Lower Thames Valley watershed.

Only Parks Canada national parks are offering free day-use admission this year.

But aren't ALL parks in Canada considered 'national parks'?

While we are very proud that our conservation areas, they aren't considered national parks. In fact, our conservation areas within the Lower Thames Valley watershed are really quite different than those Parks Canada offers.

National parks offered by Parks Canada are easily recognized by the logo that greets you at the entrance to these parks:



When you enter a Lower Thames Valley Conservation Area, you'll see the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority logo:





- **Displays and Exhibits** are created to update programs and information for the public.
 - The London Farm Show was attended March 8 - 10
 - The 2018 International Plowing Match will be held September 18-22, in Pain Court, Chatham-Kent. A meeting was held with the St. Clair Region and Essex Region Conservation Authority Communications staff in March 3. We were in agreement of a theme of “what the CA’s are doing to protect the Great Lakes”. This theme can incorporated components of phosphorus reduction, wetlands, stewardship/BMPS etc.
 - The Grow Wild Go Wild 2017 Expo was held in London on April 8. The LTVCA had a large booth, promoted stewardship and conservation area programs as well as had Season’s Day Use Permits on sale.

- **Paid Advertisements** are taken out in the local tourist guides for Chatham-Kent, Middlesex and Elgin for C.M. Wilson and Longwoods Road Conservation Area for 2017. Staff also take out advertisements in the local print media to inform the public about workshops and seminars.

- **Presentations** are given to community groups upon request. Support is provided to staff for official openings, funder recognition ceremonies and community events upon request.

- **Committees and Meetings:** On March 10, the Community Relations Coordinator attended a Conservation Ontario Communications Workshop for Conservation Authority communications staff at Black Creek Pioneer Village north of Toronto. Key take aways were: learning about “Story Maps” being used for technical reports; Conservation Ontario’s new website design underway; messaging about the Canada National Parks Pass vs our Season’s Day Use Pass so that people aren’t confused; creating virtual tours of conservation areas; utilizing social media the best ways possible; how to get involved with the National

Shoreline Cleanup; should conservation areas become 'tobacco products free; launch of Healthy Hikes program early May; and watershed reports cards launch will be March 2018.

A Source Protection Committee meeting was also attended on March 24th at the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority. Communications staff will work with the Source Protection Project Manager to create some outreach and education materials for use in the LTVCA.

• **The LTVCA's website and social media (YouTube, Twitter and Facebook)** are updated daily with current/relevant Conservation Authority information and events. The website address is www.ltvca.ca. We encourage you to check in with us daily and share with your friends! Updates highlighting LTVCA projects, events and current conservation activities relating to the watershed are posted. Photos and video clips of programs and projects are taken regularly.

• **Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation** Directors meeting was March 7. The AGM is scheduled for May 9. Based on the outcomes of a Longwoods 'visioning' exercise in 2017, the Foundation plans to develop an application to the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) for early 2018 requesting funds to develop a feasibility study and 5-10 year strategic plan for Longwoods Road Conservation Area and Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum - 40+ year old building infrastructures are in need of restoration/repair or replacement and also the accessibility requires upgrading.

• **Events in conservation areas:**

- Longwoods Moonlight Winter Family Hike – February 11 – 92 participants and 12 volunteers
- March Break Program at Longwoods/Ska-Nah-Doht – March 13-17 – 94 participants
- Native Plants Workshop at Longwoods - April 23
- Longwoods Heritage Weekend – May 6-7
- Big O Birding Hike – May 7 at Big O Conservation Area



March Break Tours at Longwoods and Ska-Nah-Doht Village



March Break Tours at Longwoods and Ska-Nah-Doht Village

The Upper Thames Military Re-enactment Society
Proudly Presents
Longwoods Heritage Weekend

May 6 & 7, 2017

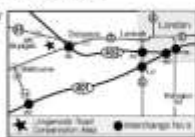
Longwoods Road Conservation Area 5 Km west of Delaware, Middlesex Road 2
8348 Longwoods Road, Mount Brydges



Step back in time, as British troops attempt to expel American invaders.
Hear the crack of the musket and the roar of the cannon. Come and Experience life during the War of 1812. Tour the campsites or shop in the historic village



Join the British Army in the Mimi Militia
Admission- \$8
Elementary school kids- FREE
10 AM-5PM Daily



www.royal-scots.com

Big "O" Birding

May 7th, 2017



Come out May 7th, 2017 to Big "O" Conservation Week. Come and experience some of the best birding in Southwestern Ontario has to offer. A tour will be led by Paul Pratt, a retired biologist from the Ojibway Nature Reserve in Windsor.

A live falconry demo by Federal Bird Services and BBQ will be at the Iron Kettle B & B. Consider where the birding big book is with the all day watch for some beautiful species they introduce.




Contact Randall Van Wagner for more details. Please RSVP by Friday May 1st!
519-354-7310 x 230 Randall.VanWagner@lvca.ca Free Admission!

- **Publications:** Community Relations staff assist Conservation Authority staff with publications as needed. Publications are posted on our website for downloading.

The C.M. Wilson Conservation Area brochure has been refreshed for 2017 to include canoe and bicycle rentals, a volley ball court and information to promote the barn pavilion.



The Barn - A Hidden Gem!

Our barn pavilion may be rented for events year round. Its unique stone table 'centre piece', kitchen and hydro services make this barn a cozy, rustic venue for family get-togethers, wedding receptions and school functions.

McKinlay Woodlands Memorial Forest

Supported by McKinlay Funeral Homes Ltd. and the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation, hundreds of trees are planted in memory of loved ones every year. For more information about the Foundation Memorial Forest Program call 519- 264-2420 or email Yournature@lowerthamesfoundation.ca.



We're Easy to Find!

Directions:

C. M. Wilson Conservation Area is located at 21799 Fargo Road, 8.5 km south of Chatham: (Take Communications Road south, after going over Hwy. 401 turn right (west) onto Horton Road, cross railroad tracks, turn right (north) onto Fargo Road and travel 1 km to the entrance.)

Coordinates:

Lat/Long 42.375, -82.107
UTM 408840, 4692030

Mailing Address:

C. M. Wilson Conservation Area
21799 Fargo Road
Blenheim, Ontario N0P 1A0

When Are We Open?

Visit www.ltvc.ca for the most up to date hours

Day Use: Year-round from 8 a.m. to sunset daily

Campground: Open Victoria Day weekend to Thanksgiving

Reservations: 519-351-3919

Gatehouse / Park Store / Rentals:

(Victoria Day weekend – Last Friday of June)
Friday 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Saturday 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Sunday 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

(Last weekend in June – Labour Day)

Monday to Thursday 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

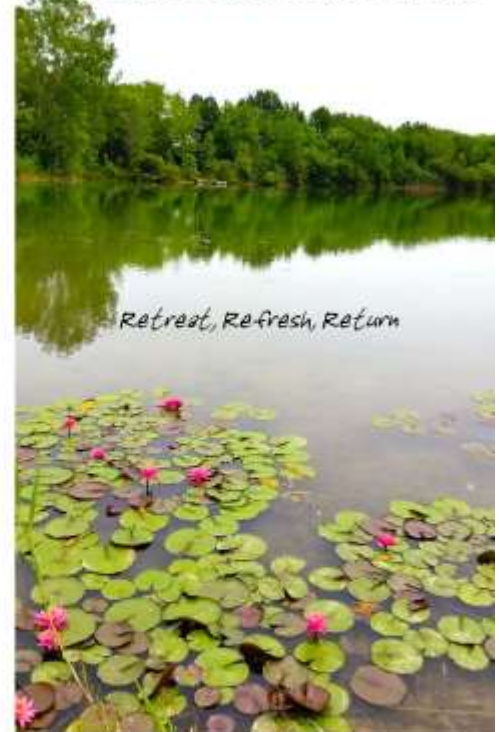
Day Use Admission

This is a Pay & Display park. Please purchase your day use parking permit at the machine located at the gatehouse.

Contact

Tel: 519-354-7310 Fax: 519-352-3436
Email: info@ltvca.ca Website: www.ltvca.ca
Spring 2017

C.M. Wilson Conservation Area



Retreat, Refresh, Return

Camp at one of our 100 camp sites!



* For a balanced and healthy watershed *

C.M. Wilson Conservation Area

The C.M. Wilson Conservation Area is located 8.5 km south of Chatham. The Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority acquired this 30 ha property in 1967. The park was named after a former Chair of the Board of Directors, Clarence Michael Wilson.

For nature lovers, the Carolinian forest and wetlands abound with birds and wildlife. A man-made lake offers fishing for bass, pike, catfish and bluegill and a place to put in your canoe or windsurf. Picnic areas, two adventure playgrounds and a campground provide fun for the whole family! Rent a canoe or bicycle to explore the wonders of the lake and park grounds. A volleyball court is also available!

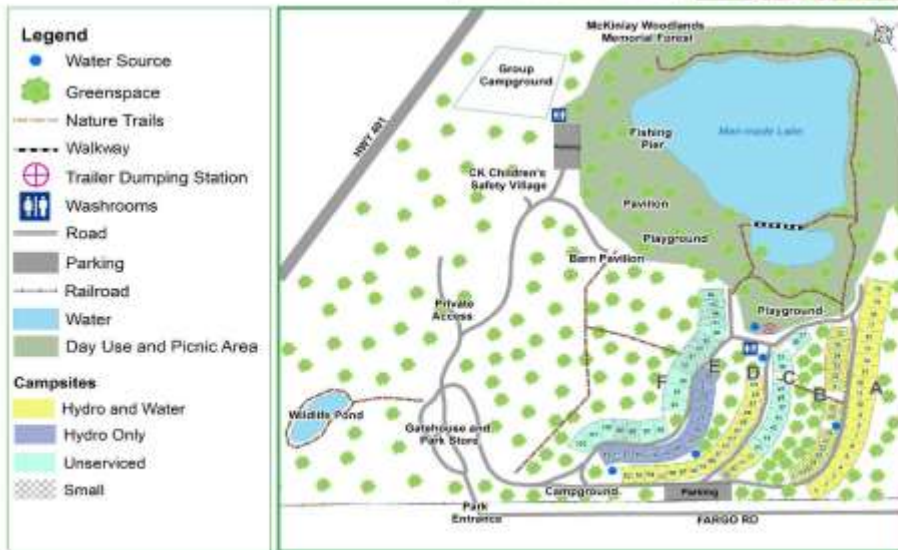
Family and Group Camp

Camp at C.M. Wilson Conservation Area with your family and friends! Camp sites ideal for tents and trailers offer unserviced, hydro and hydro/water. We have over 100 individual camp sites to rent for a getaway, as well as group sites for larger gatherings. Stay for a night, a week, or a month! We also offer seasonal camping, with optional winter trailer storage available. Check out our website for an interactive campground map and more photos.



Features

- Camp site and group camping rentals
- Canoe and bicycle rentals
- Volleyball court
- Accessible washrooms and showers
- Barn pavilion with unique 'stone centre piece' for year round event rental
- Wedding space rental
- 30 ha of natural area
- Picnic tables, playgrounds, lake and fishing area
- Nature trails and boardwalks
- Wildlife and bird watching opportunities
- Seasonal gatehouse/park store offering snacks, beverages, supplies and rentals
- Curriculum based conservation education programs for all ages
- Parking for vehicles and trailers
- McKinlay Woodlands Memorial Forest
- Location of Chatham-Kent and Lambton Children's Water Festival
- Home to Chatham-Kent Children's Safety Village



- **Applications:** Staff apply for project funding as grants become available including an application to The London Community Foundation April 3, 2017 for Longwoods 'visioning' project in 2017.
- **Courses/Certification:** Staff keep current by attending appropriate courses as needed. The Community Relations Coordinator participated in a webinar on March 22 through Techsoup Canada entitled "Are you ready for July 1, 2017? An Update on Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL).
July 2014 - CASL came into force, introducing new rules that protect Canadians from malicious spam online.
January 2015 - Additional measures under CASL, to better protect Canadians from viruses and malware, came into force.
July 1, 2017—the private right of action comes into force. Private individuals and organizations that are affected by a violation of CASL will be able to seek legal redress through civil actions.

The audience was made up of non-profits and registered charities (which the LTVCA is) and the presenter was Maanit Zemel, Esq. – a Toronto lawyer. She provided an overview of: Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL), Commercial Electronic Messages (CEM), The Charities Exemption (which she recommended that registered charities not rely exclusively on this) and Recommendations.

Anyone can complain to the CRTC, Privacy Commissioner or the Competition Bureau and there have been significant fines for non-compliance. Recommendations included:

- Tip#1 Get Your Board Onboard (risk management strategy)
- Tip#2 Conduct an Audit (what forms of electronic communications do we use etc.)
- Tip#3 Develop and Implement CASL Compliance Policies and Procedures
- Tip#4 Training and Education (of staff, volunteers)
- Tip#5 Review contracts with 3rd parties
- Tip#6 Consider buying insurance for CASL
- Tip#7 Consult with IT specialists

Staff discussed the above. Our first steps will be to canvass other Conservation Authorities across the province to see if they have Compliance Policies and Procedures for CASL in place that can be shared.

• **Volunteers:** Our volunteers continue to play a huge role with the LTVCA. From helping with special events to trail work, we are very grateful for their support!

- **Twelve Interpretive trail signs** for the trails at Longwoods will be installed with the volunteer help of the Thames Valley Trail Association on May 20th (alternative date June 3). A bbq lunch will be provided. These trail signs were funded through a TD Friends of the Environment Grant in 2015.
- **Longwoods Nature Trail Repair Project** - Staff have connected with a tech teacher at Strathroy District Collegiate Institute to see if his technology students could become involved in a boardwalk /bridge construction project for the Longwoods Road Conservation Area.

One of our trails at Longwoods that overlooks a Provincially Significant wetland and a favourite pathway for visitors has a couple of small bridges that span ravine areas on the trail. This trail has been closed to the public for over a year now because our Health and Safety Committee recommended the bridges be removed due to safety issues. We have yet to find the time and staff resources to accomplish this task and to replace them and we are trying to find partners in the community that would be willing to help us out. We are hoping tech students at the school would be able to build modular bridges as a class project. These bridge sections could then be transported to Longwoods and pieced together during installation.

A site visit with David Vine (teacher) and LTVCA staff was held on March 29th. There are several milestones that need to be incorporated into a work plan that will span a couple of years including addressing all safety issues (poison ivy, dead ash removal, old boardwalk removal). However, the teacher has clearance with his Principal to engage in this project and he is keen to work with us in whatever way he can with his students. Many of the students are First Nations and the teacher felt this project would be a great fit with the cultural features at Longwoods and the nearby archaeological site. One of David's coworkers is also related to the Berkmortels – the neighbouring land owner beside the trail offering more partnership opportunities. A meeting has been arranged on April 11 to further discuss next steps with staff and David Vine to develop a feasible workplan.

7.6) Conservation Authority Education

Conservation Youth Group Workshops

Workshops are performed at Longwoods Road Conservation Area and LTVCA outreach locations to youth and their leaders. Youth groups work towards badges for various outdoor activities.

Total number from January 1 – March 31, 2017 - 0 (0 in 2016)

Conservation Field Trips for Students

Total number from January 1 – March 31, 2017, 16 students and 2 adult supervisors participated in field trips to Longwoods Road Conservation Area. (73 students and 9 adults in 2016)

Conservation Classroom Programs and Outreach

River and Creek Safety Program - From January 1 – March 31, 2017 – 18 adults and 243 students (14 adults and 208 students in 2016). Many thanks to the local service clubs that sponsored this program.

St. Thomas Elgin Children's Water Festival – May 16-19, 2017

LTVCA Education staff will be helping out next spring's festival in St. Thomas. The Kettle Creek Conservation Authority takes the lead on this one but we assist with manpower for the setup, running activity centres and take down as part of Elgin is in our watershed. Staff attended planning meetings on March 2 and March 20th.

Lake Erie Student Conference – Spring 2018

The Upper Thames River, St. Clair Region and LTVCA staff met on March 9th to discuss a Lake Erie Student Conference in the Chatham area to be held in the spring of 2018. Here is an outline of what is in mind.

BACKGROUND

Low public awareness of the Great Lakes has been cited as a barrier to citizens, organizations and communities, such as Ontario's education community, in becoming more engaged in Great Lakes protection and restoration initiatives. Ontario's Great Lakes Strategy, enshrined in the Great Lakes Protection Act 2015, and the Canada - Ontario Agreement on Great Lakes Water Quality and Ecosystem Health have goals of engaging and empowering communities in the protection and restoration of the Great Lakes.

This Project (a Lake Erie Student conference) supports the implementation of Ontario's commitments to engage and empower communities by connecting teachers and school boards with opportunities to use the Great Lakes and their watersheds as a context for teaching and learning. It builds on the Great Lakes student conference engagement and experiential model that has been used by Great Lakes partners and school boards basin-wide since 2014.

The project will result in xxx school board leads and teachers being able to identify rich learning opportunities for students of all pathways by using the Great Lakes as a context for teaching and learning. It will enable conference participants to improve their understanding of First Nations culture and worldview as well as deepen their appreciation of the role of traditional knowledge in understanding changes to the Great Lakes Basin ecosystem.

The LTVCA will have an overall responsibility to plan, organize and deliver the Lake Erie SHSM Student Conference, working collaboratively with the school boards. It is a one day conference with 100 to 120

students in attendance (Special High Skills Major (SHSM) students from the school boards in Chatham-Kent). Funding to do this comes from MOECC to cover a budget of one of these conferences.

Focus to be Lake Erie / First Nations (Clearwater Revival – Engagement Group and Guardians 4 Directions)/stewardship/ etc. Conference is all about why we should care about Lake Erie (Great Lakes) with opportunities to involve local businesses, commercial enterprises, water quality etc. It's an opportunity for students to also explore various careers.

What came to mind was targeting the Rondeau Bay area as the hub for the conference. We could have involvement from local tourism (provincial park etc.), fishing enterprises, municipal water treatment plants, wildlife, phosphorus monitoring, SAR, First Nations (Caldwell Nation?) etc. etc. The intent is to cross over a variety of subject areas, appeal to all senses, through the day's workshops.

Community participation is encouraged as it is not supposed to be just all about the conservation authority however we will be definitely involved. Students attend from 9 a.m. until around 1:30. Two morning workshops and 2 workshops after a catered lunch. Workshops each run 4 times.

We'd need easy access to a community centre, arena etc. An eating venue for 120. And local topics of interest within easy bussing distance if necessary. Bussing between workshops is doable however; distances have to be short as students are on a very limited and tight time schedule.

We will start speaking with school board reps in the near future. This event will take at least 6 months to plan in order to get all our ducks in a row. There will be various guest speakers and could include local politicians etc. We are looking to host this tentatively the spring of 2018, after birding season! This would fit nicely after the Water Festival in fall 2017 and before the International Plowing Match in fall 2018.

Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum Field Trips for Students

Total number from January 1 to March 31, 2017 – 255 students and 50 adult supervisors participated in field trips to Ska-Nah-Doht. (910 students and 133 adults in 2016).

Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum Group Workshops

Workshops are performed at Ska-Nah-Doht and LTVCA outreach locations for youth and their leaders. Youth groups work towards badges for various outdoor activities.

Total number from January 1 – March 31, 2017 – 28 (15 in 2016)

Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum Activities

School tours have been slow through late winter and early spring but May and June are almost full. That does not mean that we are not busy! March Break saw 127 people throughout the week taking tours and hikes or just enjoying the time with family in the park. CTV came out on the Wednesday (the worst weather day of the week) and gave us an excellent boost to add to our numbers for the end of the week. At least 5 families came out after seeing the spot on the 6:00 pm news!

The Turtle Trail gift shop has been on the road. We attended the Maple Syrup Festival at the Museum of Ontario Archaeology on March 11 and 12. It was a new event for them, the weather was cold but we were

inside and visitors helped us to just over \$300.00 in sales. We also attended Western University Pow Wow on March 25. The gift shop took in nearly \$300.00 in sales.

For a unique professional development opportunity, Karen and Rose attended the Indigenous Collections Symposium on March 23-24 in Six Nations. There were a lot of contacts to be made and a lot of information to take in. It should have been a 4 day workshop! It was an amazing 2 days. The facilities at the Polytechnic and Woodland Cultural Centre were excellent. The discussions focused on artifacts and the issue of repatriation. There was a section on Truth and Reconciliation; who and how should it be approached? It is a fresh wound of a topic and deserves careful handling. Basically, it comes down to each individual story and why it is being told. We are still processing but overall, it was a very positive experience.

7.7) Wheatley Two Creeks Association

WHEATLEY TWO CREEKS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of regular meeting held Feb 4th, 2016 at the Jackson Residence

ATTENDANCE: Rick & Forest Taves, Gerry & Muggs Soulliere, Joe & Ginette Pinsonneault, Bill & Karen Robertson, Ron Bell, Sheilah Marans, Ron & Vicki Haley, Linda & Lee Pearce, Phil & Linda Humphries, David Derbyshire, Mike Diesbourg, Pauline Sample, Lorna Bell, Craig Willett, Bruce & Marj Jackson.

MINUTES: Moved by Marj, sec by Craig minutes be accepted as printed (Carried)

MEMORIAL GROVES: Look at expanding area. Memorial Sunday will be September 18th

PROP & EQUIP: 1) Rope broke on front flag pole. Bruce contacted Buba who will stop by and install new rope when time permits 2) Bryne Clement has volunteered to repair hill light 3) Lots of trees down with all the wind 4) Trees offered this year from Lower Thames will be free 5) Hummingbird Bridge in need of repair, Pembina Bridge needs repaired, wood is ready for Walnut Bridge 6) Some discussion on setting up schedule for looking after maintenance re toilets, garbage disposal etc. 7) Fire extinguishers have been donated by John Neufeld, sent a Thank you note. 8) First Aid Kit has been purchased

CONCERTS: Concert series for 2016 is full. Brian Cobby has been hired to take care of the sound for 2016. He will receive the same remuneration as we put out in 2015.

Sheilah had a sample of Posters and Flyers with concert schedule lineup. (Thanks Sheilah)

Holly Taves is our new Web Master assisted by Gerry & Mugs. Moved by Gerry sec by Craig (Carried)

FINANCIAL REPORT: Ron presented his monthly financial report. It was moved by Craig, sec by Linda report be accepted as presented. (Carried)

Ron passed out the 2016 Donation appeal letters for member distribution.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Our March meeting will be our Annual followed by our General at the Wheatley Legion March 3rd.

ADJOURNMENT: Pauline moved for adjournment at 8:40 p.m.

Marjorie Jackson Secretary

WHEATLEY TWO CREEKS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL-Meeting March 3rd, 2016

ATTENDANCE: Rick & Forest Taves, Bruce & Marg Jackson, Lorna Bell, Gerry & Margaret Soulliere, Mike & Wendy Diesbourg, Ron Haley, Mariette Preyde, Phil Humphries

Presidents Message: Rick thanked the board members and others for their commitment to Two Creeks. He also talked about the past years activities and accomplishments. This year marks the 24th Anniversary of the forming of ' Friends of Two Creeks'.

THANKYOU RICK For your commitment to the Association since the beginning.

Minutes: Moved by Marj, seconded by Lorna.

REPORTS: Recap

Memorial Groves: Rick talked about how well the groves are maintained and also extending them Northward by clearing the brush but leaving the larger trees.

Property & Equip: Will try to get another year out of the Bushhog, have funds available if new one is required. Lots of potholes and ruts in grass to be filled in when things dry out. Trees across trails are being removed. Wood for bridge repair is in shed. Maintained trails.

Concerts: Weather did not cooperate the first few weeks but weather improved as well as the attendance, very successful year; Scouts ran refreshment booth; sold concert buttons and issued receipts; received new and larger buttons for this year. Concerts all booked for 2016.

Environmental Awareness: Collected used household batteries. Rick will ask Amanda at Chatham Kent about a firm delivery date for the 2000 trees we are receiving. Craig Willet is offering trees for sale at .25 each, Jerry motioned to buy 125 each of Bur & Red Oak, seconded by Mike. Muggs will contact schools regarding a planting schedule.

Other: Entered a float in the Santa Claus Parade, thanks to Jerry and Muggs for all your hard work.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Submitted by Ron

Opening Balance	\$24,511.53
Revenues	\$27,630.39
Operating Expenses	\$19,777.11
Capital Expenses	\$ 7,615.98
Closing Balance	\$24,748.83
Fund for Perpetual Care	\$1,423.43 (Memorial Groves)

Moved by Ron, sec. by Mariette report be accepted as presented (Carried)

CORRESPONDENCE: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Election of Board Members

Rick opened nominations for 3 Year Board Members

Rick Taves nominated by Mariette

Ron Haley nominated by Lorna

Phil Humphries nominated by Lorna

Mariette Preyde	nominated by Rick
Linda Pearce	nominated by Ron
Marjorie Jackson	nominated by Lorna
Mike Diesbourg	nominated by Marj

With no other nominations, Rick declared nominations closed.

With the acceptance of Rick Taves, Mike Diesbourg and Phil Humphries and the declining of Ron Haley, Mariette Preyde, Linda Pearce, and Marjorie Jackson accepting an ex officio status on the Board, our Board members for 2016 are:

3 year term- Rick Taves, Mike Diesbourg, Phil Humphries
2 year term- Lorna Bell, Gerry Soulliere, Craig Willet
1 year term- Larry McDonald, Joe Pinsonneault, Pauline Sample

Membership dues of \$5.00 were collected.

Joe moved for adjournment at 8:15 pm

Phil Humphries
Secretary

7.8) GMs Report

As reported in February, Authority staff have been involved over the past year in discussions and workshops relating to the development of a “Collaborative Strategy to Reduce Phosphorus Loss through Improvements to Water Management and Drainage in the Thames River Basin”. An outline of this joint initiative of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture and the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative was included with the February Annual General Meeting Agenda package for information. The collaborative has begun meeting and is in the process of establishing various working groups to advance the project. The initiative is being branded as the Thames River Phosphorus Reduction Collaborative and efforts are underway to bring the committee members up to speed on the available science and stewardship initiatives that are already underway. To that end, a tour is being organized to coincide with the June 27 meeting of the Steering Committee which will focus on the Rondeau Wetlands and Jeannette’s Creek GLASI projects.

This collaborative effort is coinciding with the recently released Draft Domestic Action Plan, which, when finalized in February of 2018, will describe key actions, resources, timelines and accountability for addressing this serious issue affecting our watershed, our Great Lakes Community and our economy. Staff will be providing input on proposed actions and an important role for Conservation Authorities given their lengthy history of working with farmers and landowners in promoting stewardship and best management practices. Monitoring of surface waters is likely to be another important function for Conservation Authorities.

The LTVCA has been asked to participate in phase II of a “Pilot Study to Assess the Conservation Value of CA Lands: New Activities for 2017”, focusing on the Rondeau Bay Marshes. The study is a partnership of Environment and Climate Change Canada – Canadian Wildlife Service, and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry’s Natural Heritage unit; and recognizes that the great majority of protected or conserved lands outside of federal or provincial parks and protected areas in southern Ontario are Conservation Authority lands. The results of this work may qualify Conservation Authority owned properties as contributing to Canada’s Protected Area targets. The study is not expected to require significant LTVCA staff resources.

The Chair and myself recently attended Conservation Ontario Council, followed by a successful “Conservation Authorities Queen’s Park Day” at which CA representatives hosted a luncheon and networking session with MPP’s. It is an excellent opportunity to showcase the extensive relationships that CAs have with provincial ministries and provides an opportunity for dialogue. Meetings with local MPPs have already been scheduled or taken place as a follow up to the event.

Recommendation: That the above reports be received for information.

8. Correspondence

8.1) Pilot Study to Assess the Conservation Value of CA Lands: New Activities for 2017

Date: 22 March 2017

To: Don Pearson, General Manager, Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority, Don.Pearson@ltvca.ca

From: Andrea Kettle

Cc: Jocelyn Sherwood, Paul Gray

RE: Pilot Study to Assess the Conservation Value of CA Lands: New Activities for 2017

Dear Don:

In 2015-2016, CWS-Ontario sponsored a pilot study designed to assess the protection and conservation value of lands managed by the Conservation Authorities and partners in Ontario. I am pleased to present the final draft of the report “Assessing the Protection and Conservation Value of Lands Managed by the Conservation Authorities and Partners in Ontario” for your review and consideration.

In total, 14 properties were used in this pilot study to test a protected area classification procedure based on a Canadian Council on Ecological Areas (CCEA) screening tool and the IUCN protected area classification system. Conservation Authority lands were viewed as an ideal test case because of their variety and geographical extent – the great majority of protected or conserved lands outside of federal or provincial parks and protected areas in southern Ontario are Conservation Authority lands. This project provided some general insight and lessons learned that will help practitioners employ more standardized approaches to classification and designation.

The report contains a number of recommendations, some of which are the basis for work proposed for 2017. Some of the recommendations extend beyond the jurisdiction and mandate of CWS-ON and CAs, and may be more appropriately considered at provincial and national levels of decision-making, such as the need to communicate to CCEA and with partners and the public about the initiative, inter-agency cooperation, distinguishing between protected areas and OEABCMs, and use of the CCEA’s Conservation Areas Reporting and Tracking System (CARTS).

In addition to sending along the 2016 report, I am writing to introduce proposed activities for 2017, which include:

- A workshop to review the results contained in the 2016 Phase I report and explore opportunities for future collaborative initiatives. All CAs are invited to the 28 March 2017 workshop at the Holiday Inn in Barrie. The invitation and logistics have been sent under separate cover; and
- Application of the Phase I methodology to assess clusters of properties in selected areas managed by the Conservation Authorities.

In recent months, CWS-Ontario completed a GIS analysis of clusters of CA properties to identify candidate sites based on size (i.e., the larger the better), significance (e.g., ANSI or PSW), and/or the area of water encompassed (e.g., property boundary extends into the Great Lakes). Rondeau Bay properties have been identified as potential study sites for Phase II, and I am writing in the hope that you are willing to participate. Participation will not involve a significant amount of time and effort by CA staff. As you may recall, in 2014-2015 Conservation Ontario undertook a project for ECCC-CWS to

compile and map CA lands from data that you provided, and the current project team is bound by the terms of the data-sharing agreements from that cataloguing project. ECCC-CWS is committed to honouring all agreement terms and greatly appreciates access to these valuable data.

Thank you for considering this request. In the interim, if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
Andrea

Andrea Kettle
Head, Stewardship Unit, Canadian Wildlife Service
Environment and Climate Change Canada
4905 Dufferin St. Toronto, ON M3H 5T4
416-514-2633



8.2) Snapping Turtle Harvest in Ontario has ended

From: Scott Gillingwater [mailto:gillingwaters@thamesriver.on.ca]

Sent: April 1, 2017 1:00 PM

Cc: Don Pearson; Valerie Towsley

Subject: Snapping Turtle Harvest In Ontario Has Ended

Importance: High

I wanted to update everyone on the outcome of my previous request for assistance in contacting the Ontario (Canada) government to remove Snapping Turtles from the game species list. As of today, the hunting of Snapping Turtles is no longer permitted in the province. All 8 of Ontario's native turtle species now receive protection under the Ontario Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act from hunting and trapping (includes: killing, capturing, injuring and harassing). Ontario turtle species include: Snapping Turtle, Wood Turtle, Spotted Turtle, Blanding's Turtle, Eastern Musk Turtle, Eastern Spiny Softshell Turtle, Painted (Midland and Western) and Northern Map Turtle.

A brief note below that I put out through the Canadian Herpetological Society:

As of April 1, 2017, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (OMNRF) has ended the legal harvest of Snapping Turtles in the province. After over 10 years of collective effort by many groups and individuals, the irrefutable science and public concern for this at-risk species has made a difference. This is a positive outcome for all who are passionate about wildlife and the health of our natural areas, but this is only the first step; we must now greatly increase our efforts to halt or reduce the many other threats still facing this species. This decision will help to raise awareness and concern for not only Snapping Turtles, but also for the issues facing all of Ontario's native turtles. Thank you to everyone who spoke up in defense of science and nature! The following quote is from the OMNRF regarding the decision: "Based on public feedback, there was significant opposition to maintaining any open season for snapping turtles. Snapping Turtle is a long-lived species that reproduces slowly and is subject to other significant stressors such as road mortality. The Ministry has closed the Snapping Turtle season to help maintain populations of this species into the future."

8.3) Diversity Census – Request for Participation, City of London

Don Pearson

From: Graham, Kate <kgraham@London.ca>
Sent: April 13, 2017 11:57 AM
To: Don Pearson
Subject: Diversity Census - Request for Participation
Attachments: DV4C Census - External Organizations.pdf

Hi Don,

Hope this finds you well.

The City of London is participating in a national program to increase the participation of women from diverse backgrounds in local government. London City Council has set a specific goal *to increase the representation of women, particularly women from diverse backgrounds, on City of London advisory committees and the governance bodies of City of London agencies, boards and commissions.*

In order to understand the current diversity – understood broadly as more than just gender and ethno-cultural features – we are conducting a voluntary and confidential Diversity Census of the governance bodies of organizations to which Council make appointments. Further details, and the Census itself, are attached.

I am writing to request LTVCA's participation in the Census. This would entail (1) asking members of your governance body to participate in the Census, and (2) providing an opportunity for them to do so, either by completing paper forms (attached) or by providing us with email addresses and consent forms (also attached) so the census can be administered by email. You may wish to do this by placing this request as an agenda item at your next meeting.

Again, the Census is entirely voluntary and confidential. The data received will not be reported publicly, at an individual or organization level, and is only to provide baseline data which will inform our work going forward. We will share the summary results with all participating organizations.

Thanks for your consideration. If you have any questions, or would like to discuss further, please let me know.

Kate



Kate Graham, MPA PhD candidate
Director, Community & Economic Innovation
City Manager's Office
City of London

300 Dufferin Avenue, PO Box 5035 | London, ON | N6A 4L9
Phone: 519.661.2500 x 5879 | Cell: 226.448.0919 | Fax: 519.661.5813
kgraham@london.ca | www.london.ca

DIVERSITY Census

April 2017

Dear members,

The City of London was one of five Canadian municipalities selected to participate in Diverse Voices for Change (DV4C), a three-year initiative of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. DV4C aims to *increase the number of women across diverse communities who are actively informed by and engaged in municipal decision making processes*. London City Council has identified the following objective to guide local efforts related to the DV4C program:

To increase the representation of women, particularly women from diverse backgrounds, on City of London advisory committees and the governance bodies of City of London agencies, boards and commissions.

In order to better understand the existing diversity of the City of London Advisory Committees and the governance bodies of local Agencies, Boards and Commissions, we will be conducting a confidential and voluntary Diversity Census.

The Diversity Census is being administered by a third party, Turner Consulting Group. It is completely anonymous and does not collect any identifying information. The attached Confidentiality Fact Sheet provides more information.

By way of this letter, we are requesting your organization's participation in the Diversity Census. Specifically, we are asking members of your governance body to individually complete the Census.

There are two ways for individuals to participate:

1. Complete a paper version of the Census, **Sections A – C**. If you require paper copies of the survey please contact Kinga Koltun at kkoltun@london.ca to arrange. The completed surveys can either be mailed directly to Turner Consulting Group at Turner Consulting Group, Attn: Tana Turner, 53 Paradise Road South, Hamilton, ON, L8S 1S3 or contact Kinga for pick up or drop off.
2. Complete the Census online. If you choose this option, please complete the **Permissions: Release of Information** section to provide us with your email address and forward it to Kinga Koltun at kkoltun@london.ca. Once we receive your permissions a link will be sent to you by Turner Consulting Group to complete the survey online.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, or would like further information, please contact me at any time. If your governance body would be interested in more information or a brief presentation about the Diversity Census, please let me know.

Kate
Director, Community & Economic Innovation

DIVERSITY Census

Section A: Consent & Acknowledgement

The Diversity Census is voluntary, but the more members participate, the more accurate a snapshot we will have of our Advisory Committees, Boards and Commissions. If you participate you may choose to answer any question.

By answering the Diversity Census questions, you agree to allow us to review the information you provide, along with the responses of other members.

The personal information collected on this census is collected pursuant to the Municipal Act, 2001, and the Ontario *Human Rights Code*, s. 14(1). The information collected will be used to gain an understanding of the current makeup of the City of London's Advisory Committees, Boards and Commissions and how it compares to the diversity of the residents in London. Personal information will not become part of the public record. Generalized data may form part of a report presented to City Council and Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

Questions about this collection of personal information should be addressed to the Director of Community and Economic Innovation at 300 Dufferin Ave., London, ON N6A 4L9 or by telephone at 519-661-2500 ext. 5879 or email at kgraham@london.ca.

Do you wish to participate in the Diversity Census?

Yes

No

Section B: Membership and Education

Please identify which Advisory Committee, Board or Commission you are a member of:

AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Accessibility Advisory Committee
- Advisory Committee on the Environment
- Agricultural Advisory Committee
- Animal Welfare Advisory Committee
- Child Care Advisory Committee
- Community Safety and Crime Prevention Advisory Committee
- Cycling Advisory Committee
- Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-Oppression Advisory Committee
- Environment and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee
- London Advisory Committee on Heritage
- London Housing Advisory Committee
- Transportation Advisory Committee
- Trees and Forests Advisory Committee

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

- Argyle BIA Board of Management
- Covent Garden Market Corporation Board of Directors
- Eldon House
- Elgin Area Primary Water Supply
- Greater London International Airport Authority
- Housing Development Corporation
- Kettle Creek Conservation Authority
- Lake Huron Primary Water supply Systems Joint Management Board
- London and Middlesex Heritage Museum Board of Directors
- London & Middlesex Housing Corporation Board of Directors
- London Convention Centre Corporation
- London Downtown Business Association Board of Management
- London Hydro Inc.
- London Police Services Board
- London Public Library Board
- London Transit Commission
- Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority
- Middlesex-London Health Unit Board
- Museum London
- Old East Village BIA Board of Management
- Tourism London
- Upper Thames River Conservation Authority
- Western Fair Association (Bard of Governors & Fair Board)
- Western Board of Governors

EDUCATION

What is the highest level of schooling you have completed?

- Elementary school
- Some high school
- High school graduate or equivalent
- Some university
- Other, please specify: _____
- University graduate
- Some college or technical school
- College graduate/ graduate of a technical training program
- Post graduate or professional designation

AGE GROUP

Which of the following age categories do you fall into?

- 19 years and under
- 20 to 24 years
- 25 to 29 years
- 30 to 34 years
- 35 to 39 years
- 40 to 44 years
- 45 to 49 years
- 50 to 54 years
- 55 to 59 years
- 60 to 64 years
- 65 years and over

IMMIGRATION STATUS

Were you born in Canada?

- Yes
- No

If no, when did you come to Canada?

- In 2016 or 2017
- 2011 to 2015
- 2006 to 2010
- 2001 to 2005
- Before 2000

Section C: Demographic Questions

DISABILITY

A person with a disability has a long-term or recurring physical, mental, sensory, psychiatric or learning impairment. Examples of disabilities include:

- Physical or intellectual disabilities
- Co-ordination or dexterity (difficulty using hands or arms, for example, grasping or handling a stapler or using a keyboard)
- Mobility (difficulty moving around, for example, from one office to another or up and down stairs)
- Visual impairment (unable to see or difficulty seeing)
- Hearing impairment (unable to hear or difficulty hearing)
- Speech impairment (unable to speak or difficulty speaking or being understood)
- Other disability (including learning disabilities, developmental disabilities, mental or other types of disabilities)

Based on this definition, do you have a disability?

- Yes No

If yes, please tell us which type of disability you have: (Check all that apply)

- Physical disability or mental condition (e.g. visual impairment, hearing impairment, require the use of wheelchair or guide dog or other support animal)
- Learning disability (e.g. dyslexia, attention deficit disorder)
- Mental health disability (e.g. depression, bipolar, anxiety)
- Any other disability affecting your ability to work, such as epilepsy, amputation, etc.

Please specify:

RACE/ETHNICITY

Please identify the race/ethnicity with which you most strongly identify (select one):

- Aboriginal/Indigenous** (e.g. member of First Nations, Métis, or Inuit)
 - Arab** (e.g. Iraqi, Lebanese, including those born in Canada and other countries)
 - Black/African** (e.g. African origin including those born in Canada and other countries such as Jamaica, Trinidad, Somalia, Nigeria, Italy, etc.)
 - East Asian** (e.g. Chinese, Japanese, Korean, including those born in Canada and other countries)
 - Latin and South American** (e.g. Mexican, Cuban, including those born in Canada and other countries)
 - South Asian/ East Indian** (e.g. Indian, Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Nepalese, Tamil, including those born in Canada and other countries such as Guyana, Trinidad, East Africa, etc.)
 - Southeast Asian** (e.g. Burmese, Cambodian, Filipino, Laotian, Thai, Vietnamese, including those born in Canada and other countries)
 - West Asian** (e.g. Afghan, Iranian, including those born in Canada and other countries)
 - White / Caucasian** (e.g. English, French, Russian, Polish, Italian, Irish, Portuguese, German, etc., including those born in Canada and other countries)
 - Mixed origin** (with parents in multiple groups listed above, including those born in Canada and other countries)
 - Other, please specify:**
-

RELIGION/FAITH

Please select which you mostly identify with:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Aboriginal/Indigenous spirituality | <input type="radio"/> Muslim |
| <input type="radio"/> Buddhist | <input type="radio"/> Sikh |
| <input type="radio"/> Christian | <input type="radio"/> No religious affiliation |
| <input type="radio"/> Hindu | <input type="radio"/> Other, please specify: |
| <input type="radio"/> Jewish | |
-

GENDER

Please indicate your gender:

- Female
- Male
- Gender non-conforming
- Transgender (male-to-female)
- Transgender (female-to-male)
- Other, please specify:

SEXUAL ORIENTATION

Please indicate your sexual orientation:

- Bisexual
- Gay
- Heterosexual
- Lesbian
- Pansexual
- Other, please specify:

Thank you for taking the time to complete
this survey.

Confidentiality Fact Sheet

Survey of Members of City Advisory Committees, Boards & Commissions

We want you to feel comfortable and confident to participate in the Diversity Census. Here are some facts about protecting your privacy and confidentiality:

- You will not be asked to provide your name and any other identifiable information in the Census
- The Census **cannot** be traced back to any individual
- The vendor will provide a database to the City
- City staff will not know who completes the Census, only the number of people who participated and their responses.

Our vendor

- The Census will be administered by Turner Consulting Group (TCG). You can learn more about them at www.turnerconsultinggroup.ca
- TCG is a leader in Diversity and Employment Equity consulting and has worked with leading public sector organizations since 2002
- TCG has a strong reputation in the field and will not risk their reputation by compromising anyone's privacy
- TCG has established a Data Management Policy, which has been reviewed by our legal staff and Manager of Records and Information Services.

Completing the Diversity Census online

- You will receive an e-mail with a link to the vendor's website where the Census is available
- When completing the Census, you will be outside of the City's ITS network, so there is no way for the City to track your responses
- The vendor's online site will have SSL encryption in place to ensure data is encrypted in transit
- The electronic Census data will be housed within the vendor's secure server environment
- The vendor will not track any IP addresses
- The City's ITS division has conducted a security review of the vendor's online systems and is satisfied that all elements are in place to protect your information.

Questions about this collection of personal information should be addressed to the Director of Community and Economic Innovation at 300 Dufferin Ave., London, ON N6A 4L9 or by telephone at 519-661-2500 ext. 5879 or email at kgraham@london.ca.

DIVERSITY Census

Permission: Release of Personal Information

The personal information collected by the Diversity Census is collected under the authority of the *Municipal Act, 2001* and will be used for contact purposes. All personal information collected such as name and contact information, will not be disclosed to the public unless otherwise required by law. Questions about this collection should be addressed to the Director of Community and Economic Innovation at 300 Dufferin Ave, London, ON N6A 4L9 or by telephone at 519-661-2500 ext. 5879 or email at kgraham@london.ca

By signing this form I hereby grant permission to the City of London to release my email address to Turner Consulting Group for the purpose of sending a link to the online London's Diverse Voices for Change (DV4C) Diversity Census.

I understand that this information will be handled in a confidential manner and be destroyed after the data collection is completed on Sunday, April 30, 2017.

Name

Signature

Email Address

Date



8.5) Minister of Natural Resources & Forestry correspondence to the LTVCA Chair,
Linda McKinlay

Ministry of Natural
Resources and Forestry

Office of the Minister

Room 6630, Whitney Block
99 Wellesley Street West
Toronto ON M7A 1W3
Tel: 416-314-2301
Fax: 416-314-2216

Ministère des Richesses
naturelles et des Forêts

Bureau de la ministre

Édifice Whitney, bureau 6630
99, rue Wellesley Ouest
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1W3
Tél.: 416-314-2301
Télééc.: 416-314-2216



APR 13 2017

MNR6446MC-2017-632

Ms. Linda McKinlay
Chair
Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority
100 Thames Street
Chatham ON N7L 2Y8

RECEIVED

APR 19 2017

LOWER THAMES VALLEY
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Dear Ms. McKinlay:

Thank you for sharing with me the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority's (LTVC) 2016 Annual Report.

My ministry recognizes and appreciates the important work that the authority does in land and water management and in public safety. I am pleased to see the numbers highlighted in the report. I note that LTVC monitored 27 provincial water sites; planted 128,000 trees; engaged 8,000 students in conservation and native studies through your education programs; and hosted 26 events in conservation areas.

Ontario and its conservation authorities have shared a rich and productive relationship over the years.

I would like to congratulate you, your staff, program partners and volunteers (all 710 volunteers dedicating 5,500 hours of their time) on another year of successful projects including, the Moonlight Family Winter Hike and the exhibit at the "Go Wild Grow Wild" expo.

LTVC's legacy of resource stewardship and its impressive record of protecting people, property and communities from natural hazards are also commended.

We look forward to continuing to work with your staff to achieve our mutual goals in the coming year.

Best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathryn McGarry".

Kathryn McGarry
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

9. Other Business

9.1) Watershed Bus Tour

A discussion of a bus tour for the western end of the watershed will be undertaken at the time of the meeting.

9.2) Personnel Matter (in camera session)