



# Board of Directors Meeting

## A G E N D A

June 27, 2019

2:00 p.m.

EM Warwick Conservation Area

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We will begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of First Nations people who have longstanding relationships to the land, water and region of southwestern Ontario. We also acknowledge the local lower Thames River watershed communities of this area which include Chippewa's of the Thames First Nation, Oneida Nation of the Thames, Munsee Delaware Nation and Delaware Nation at Moraviantown. We value the significant historical and contemporary contributions of local and regional First Nations and all of the Original peoples of Turtle Island (North America). We are thankful for the opportunity to live, learn and share with mutual respect and appreciation.

# 5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

## 5.1) Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – April 18, 2019



### Board of Directors Meeting

#### MINUTES

The meeting of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority's Board of Directors was held at the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority's Administration Building at 100 Thames Street, Chatham, Ontario at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, April 18, 2019. The following directors were in attendance: T. Thompson, A. Finn, J. Wright, M. Hentz, P. Tiessen, K. Ainslie, J. Frawley, C. Cowell, S. Emons, S. Hipple and R. Leatham. L. McKinlay sent her regrets.

1. First Nations Acknowledgement  
Mr. Mark Peacock read the First Nations Acknowledgement for those present.
2. Call to Order
3. Adoption of Agenda

**BD-2019-08** M. Hentz – A. Finn

Moved that the agenda be adopted as presented with a noted addition of two items: 8.6) Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure Funding – Motion for Support; and 10.9) MNRF Notification of 2019-20 Transfer Payment Funding.

CARRIED

4. Disclosures of Conflicts of Interest  
None Declared.
5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (Previously circulated)

**BD-2019-09** S. Emons – R. Leatham

Moved that the minutes of the meetings held on February 21, 2019 for both the meeting held before the AGM, at 11 AM, and the AGM meeting held at 2 PM be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

6. Business Arising From the Minutes  
None declared.
7. Presentations  
7.1) Customer Service Presentation, present by Mr. Mark Peacock

**BD-2019-10** P. Tiessen – S. Emons

WHEREAS the provincial government intends to increase the supply of housing and streamline the land use planning and development approval process to achieve this goal; and

WHEREAS the Conservation Authorities play an important role in the planning and development review process with respect to watershed protection and hazard lands; and  
WHEREAS Conservation Authorities support and can help deliver the Government's objective not to jeopardize public health and safety or the environment;  
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors endorse the three key solutions developed by the Conservation Ontario working group: to improve client service and accountability; increase speed of approvals; and, reduce "red tape" and regulatory burden; and  
THAT staff be directed to work with Conservation Ontario and our clients to identify additional improvements; and further  
THAT staff be directed to implement these solutions as soon as possible.

CARRIED

- 7.2) Public Safety Assessments and Plans for LTVCA Water Management Structures, presented by Mr. Mark Peacock  
7.3) Flood Control Structures and Operations – Training Session No. 1, presented by Mr. Jason Wintermute

**BD-2019-11** S. Hipple – C. Cowell

Moved that the presentations on the LTVCA's Customer Service Presentation, the Public Safety Assessments and Plans for LTVCA Water Management Structures, and the Flood Control Structures and Operations – Training Session No. 1 be received as presented.

CARRIED

#### 8. Business for Approval

- 8.1) Election of members to the Ice Committee

**BD-2019-12** R. Leatham – M. Hentz

Moved that the following members be appointed to the Ice Management Committee: L. McKinlay, T. Thompson & J. Wright.

CARRIED

- 8.2) Public Safety Review: LTVCA Dams

**BD-2019-13** S. Hipple – A. Finn

Moved that the LTVCA Board of Directors approve the Public Safety Assessments for the Rivard/Diversion Dam, Sixth Street Dam and Sharon Creek Dam. And additionally; That the LTVCA Board approve the Sharon Creek Dam Public Safety Plan.

CARRIED

- 8.3) Budget vs Revenue and Expenditures for the period ending March 31, 2018

**BD-2019-14** M. Hentz – C. Cowell

Moved that the Board of Directors receives the Budget vs Revenue and Expenditures report for the period ended February 28th, 2019.

CARRIED

8.4) Change in meeting date – Bus Tour

**BD-2019-15** A. Finn – S. Emons

Moved that the Board of Directors approve the changes to the June meeting location and date to June 27th with a bus tour prior to the meeting.

CARRIED

8.5) A proposed or pending acquisition or disposal of land by the Authority, In Camera Session

**BD-2019-16** S. Emons – R. Leatham

Moved that the Board of Directors meet 'in camera'.

CARRIED

**BD-2019-17** P. Tiessen – C. Cowell

Moved that the Board of Directors move out of the 'in camera' session.

CARRIED

**BD-2019-18** J. Wright – K. Ainslie

Moved that the LTVCA Board of Directors receive the report for information.

CARRIED

**BD-2019-19** S. Emons – R. Leatham

Moved that the LTVCA Board of Directors direct staff to proceed with the negotiations and legal transfer of the Prihod/Zatina property.

CARRIED

8.6) Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure Funding – Motion for Support

**BD-2019-20** S. Hipple – S. Emons

Moved that the Board of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority supports the applications to the Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure fund. This support is specifically for projects S.19.046, S.19.047, S.19.079 and S.19.080 Financial support for project S.19.080 is included in the approved 2019 LTVCA budget.

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) Wheatley Two Creeks Association Minutes
- 9.8) CAO's Report

**BD-2019-21** K. Ainslie – C. Cowell

Moved that report 9.1) through to 9.8) be received for information.

CARRIED



10. Correspondence

- 10.1) Improving Ontario's Conservation Authorities
- 10.2) Canada Helps Protect Chatham-Kent from Flooding
- 10.3) RHODES: Chatham flood swept away bridge (historic news)
- 10.4) Ohio: Western Lake Erie 'impaired' by toxic algae
- 10.5) Lake Erie Action Plan – Release
- 10.6) Government of Canada Invests in Fishing and Recreational Harbours in SW Ontario
- 10.7) Get Smart on Stormwater to Save Billions
- 10.8) As climate changes, the way we build homes must change too
- 10.9) MNRF Notification of 2019-20 Transfer Payment Funding

BD-2019-22 S. Emons – A. Finn

Moved that correspondence items 10.1) through to 10.9) be received for information.

CARRIED

11. Events Calendar

12. Other Business

None declared.

13. Adjournment


BD-2019-23 A. Finn – S. Hipple

Moved that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED



Trevor Thompson  
Vice Chair



Mark Peacock, P. Eng.  
CAO/Secretary-Treasurer

# 7. Presentations

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## **7.1) Communication and Outreach, and Conservation Area Lands – Training Session No. 2**

Bonnie Carey and Randall Van Wagner will be providing a power point presentation on the LTVCA's Communications and Outreach, and CA Land programs respectively.

## **7.2) Trillium Feasibility Update – Fred Galloway Associates**

# 8. Business for Approval

## 8.1) Budget vs Revenue and Expenditures for the period ending May 31, 2019

### Background:

Review the 2019 Budget to the Revenue and Expenditures for the 4 months ended April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

REVENUE	2019 BUDGET	2019 BUDGET APR PROJECTED	2019 ACTUAL TO APR 30	\$ VARIANCE TO PROJECTED
GRANTS	939,253	313,084 *	556,571	243,487
GENERAL LEVY	1,433,781	1,433,781 ^	1,391,344	(42,437)
DIRECT SPECIAL BENEFIT	205,000	205,000 ^	205,000	0
GENERAL REVENUES	627,490	209,163 *	154,126	(55,037)
FOUNDATION GRANTS & REVENUES	0	0 *	0	0
RESERVES	0	0 *	0	0
<b>CASH FUNDING</b>	<b>3,205,524</b>	<b>2,161,028</b>	<b>2,307,041</b>	<b>146,013</b>
OTHER	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL FUNDING</b>	<b>3,205,524</b>	<b>2,161,028</b>	<b>2,307,041</b>	<b>146,013</b>

\*-based on a 4 of 12 month proration of the budget

^based on cash received to June 11th, 2019

Grant income is greater than budget due to the reversal of deferred revenue for on going programs and the timing of grants invoiced, including several large grants for Wetland projects.

Note: Grant income is based on funds received/invoiced and not matched to expenses, meaning there may be expenses outstanding and not recognized in the attached expense statement. At year-end, each grant is reviewed individually and unspent funds are reduced from grant income and deferred for future expenditures.

Levy revenue is shown on a cash basis. The following municipalities are paid in full as of June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019: Chatham-Kent, Dutton-Dunwich, Lakeshore, Leamington, London, Middlesex Centre, Southwest Middlesex, Southwold and West-Elgin.

General Revenue is below budget due to the following factors:

- Conservation Area revenues; Conservation Education and SKA-NAH-DOHT Village revenues; and Conservation Services and the Chatham Kent Greening are lower as most activities and income are received in summer. This is partially off-set by Planning & Regulations being above budget.

Foundation Grants and Revenues is below budget as there is normally a settlement for the memorial tree programs at the end of the year.

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

EXPENSES	2019 BUDGET	2019 BUDGET APR PROJECTED	2019 ACTUAL TO APR 30	\$ VARIANCE TO PROJECTED
<b>WATER MANAGEMENT</b>				
FLOOD CONTROL STRUCTURES	212,371	70,790	59,651	(11,139)
EROSION CONTROL STRUCTURES	11	4	4	0
FLOOD FORECASTING AND WARNING	162,935	54,312	77,070	22,758
TECHNICAL STUDIES	76,535	25,512	4,063	(21,449)
PLANNING & REGULATIONS	238,056	79,352	57,676	(21,676)
WATERSHED MONITORING (PGMN)	137,336	45,779	8,678	(37,101)



SOURCE PROTECTION	26,892	8,964	17,639	8,675
THAMES MOUTH DEBRIS REMOVAL	0	0	0	0
<b>Water Management Subtotal</b>	<b>854,136</b>	<b>213,534</b>	<b>165,213</b>	<b>(48,321)</b>
<b>CONSERVATION &amp; RECREATION PROPERTIES</b>				
<b>CONSERVATION AREAS</b>	<b>745,144</b>	<b>248,381</b>	<b>168,759</b>	<b>(79,622)</b>
<b>COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND EDUCATION</b>				
COMMUNITY RELATIONS	176,815	58,938	56,187	(2,751)
CONSERVATION EDUCATION	100,066	33,355	34,488	1,133
SKA-NAH-DOHT VILLAGE	206,843	68,948	53,271	(15,677)
<b>Community Relations &amp; Education Subtotal</b>	<b>483,724</b>	<b>161,241</b>	<b>143,946</b>	<b>(17,295)</b>
<b>CONSERVATION SERVICES/STEWARDSHIP</b>				
CONSERVATION SERVICES (FORESTRY)	102,892	34,297	16,429	(17,868)
CHATHAM-KENT GREENING PROJECT	628,839	209,613	156,658	(52,955)
PHOSPHORUS REDUCTION	334,509	111,503	278,429	166,926
SPECIES AT RISK	56,278	18,759	50,231	31,472
<b>Conservation Services/Stewardship Subtotal</b>	<b>1,122,518</b>	<b>374,172</b>	<b>501,747</b>	<b>127,575</b>
<b>CAPITAL/MISCELLANEOUS</b>				
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
<b>Capital/Miscellaneous Subtotal</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>3,205,522</b>	<b>997,328</b>	<b>979,665</b>	<b>(17,663)</b>

### *Water Management*

Flood Control Structures and Erosion Control Structures are below budget as most large projects are performed during the summer months but slightly offset due to the expenses incurred from the February flood and some damn repairs.

Flood Forecasting and Warning expenses are above budget due to the costs and human resources required for the February flood.

Technical Studies are below budget due to the timing of hiring a GIS technician and his time charged to Species at Risk to complete the grant requirements of that program.

Planning and Regulations are below budget due to the February flood event and staff time spent responding to the flood

Watershed Monitoring is below budget due to the staff time being spent on other programs and waiting on further funding for this program.

Source Protection is above budget due increased activity to complete work before the provincial year-end.

### *Conservation Areas*

Conservation area expenses are below budget as most large projects, operation of the campgrounds and other large operational costs are incurred during the summer months.

### *Community Relations and Education*

SKA-NAH-DOHT Museum and Village is below budget due to the seasonal nature of large activities in this program. Community Relations and Conservation Education is comparable to budget.

### *Conservation Services/Stewardship*

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 mostly to one transfer payment of \$45k to the University of Waterloo, one transfer payment to \$60k to University of Guelph for research services performed, wages and expenses related to an

Environment Canada and Canadian Adaptation Council grant and ALUS Middlesex received after the budget was created and not reflected in the budget.

Species at Risk is above budget due to the wages of the GIS Technician required to complete the project for the program ending Mar 31 and only 6 months of the program being budgeted for with the allocation over 12 months. Budget spent to fully utilize grant funding.

#### **Capital/Miscellaneous**

No Capital/Miscellaneous expenses to date.

#### **Summary:**

	2019 BUDGET	2019 BUDGET APR PROJECTED	2019 ACTUAL TO APR 30	\$ VARIANCE TO PROJECTED
TOTAL CASH FUNDING	3,205,524	2,161,028	2,307,041	146,013
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	3,205,522	997,328	979,665	(17,663)
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1,163,700</b>	<b>1,327,376</b>	<b>163,676</b>
LESS: ACQUISITION OF CAPITAL ASSET	0	0	0	0
<b>NET CASH FUNDING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1,163,700</b>	<b>1,327,376</b>	<b>163,676</b>

Note: The difference between the projected budget funding and projected budget expenditures is due to the recognition of the full General Levy and Special Levy versus all other income and expenses are prorated for the period.

At April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019, LTVCA's operating surplus is slightly more favourable than the projected budget as more grants have been received than budgeted and less expenditures compared to budget due to the seasonal nature of a large amount of the Conservation Authorities expenses.

**Recommendation:** That the Board of Directors receives the Budget vs Revenue and Expenditures report for the period ended April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

#### *Recommended:*

Todd Casier  
Financial Services Supervisor

#### *Reviewed:*

Mark Peacock, P. Eng.  
C.A.O. / Secretary-Treasurer

## **8.2) Window Well Openings – Policy**

### **Window Wells as a means of Flood Proofing**

#### **Additional wording to the Operational Guideline – Window wells below RFD**

Staff have had several inquiries about alternatives for flood proofing requirements for new homes. The current requirements are as follows:

- 1) Minimum openings into the proposed dwelling (ex: door sills, basement window sills, and/or crawl space vents) must be at or above the regulatory flood datum (“RFD”).
- 2) The ground surface around the proposed dwelling must be at or above the RFD for a minimum distance of two meters around the structure.

Typically, these requests arise from situations where there is a proposed structure on a vacant lot in-between existing residential homes (an infill lot) and the existing neighbouring homes do not meet current flood proofing requirements. This situation results in the new home and the ground around it being set at a substantially higher elevation than the neighbouring lots. Concerns arise around lot drainage onto the lower neighbouring properties, particularly where the lot size is constrained.

Currently, staff are advising applicants of the existing requirements and that staff cannot approve anything above and beyond what is noted in our Operational Guidelines. To mitigate lot drainage concerns, staff recommend that applicants should construct retaining walls and drainage swales between the properties. Staff also inform the applicant that the applicant has a right to request a hearing before the Executive Committee if they do not agree with the approval conditions.

Staff reached out to Essex Region Conservation Authority for advice on what their policies allow for and they provided the following wording as a guideline that they use in situations where basement windows/crawl space vents are proposed to be located below the finished grade elevation:

*There are five options to consider when openings (ex: basement windows/crawl space vents) into the structure are requested below the minimum flood proofing datum:*

- 1) *The sill elevation of the basement windows are raised to the required minimum flood proofing datum;*
- 2) *A basement window sill can be below the regulatory flood datum provided that there is a permanent poured concrete window well set to the elevation of the required minimum flood proofing datum;*
- 3) *Grouted-in glass blocks are used instead of the window;*
- 4) *The windows are removed from the design; or,*
- 5) *A combination of any of the above four noted options.*

*Please note, the use of metal window wells is a temporary flood proofing measure and are not usually approved unless the existing grade is well above the required minimum provincial flood proofing elevation.*

## **E-2019-12**

T. Thompson – P. Tiessen

Moved that the Executive Committee approve the draft wording (noted below) to be incorporated into the LTVCA’s Operational Guidelines; and

That the draft wording be placed on the LTVCA website for public review and comment; and further

That the draft policy be brought to the next Board of Directors meeting for review and approval.

### **Draft Wording for Guideline:**

There are five options to consider when openings (ex: basement windows/crawl space vents) into the structure are requested below the minimum flood proofing datum:

- 1) The sill elevation of the basement windows are raised to the required minimum flood proofing datum;
- 2) A basement window sill can be below the regulatory flood datum provided that there is a permanent poured concrete window well set to the elevation of the required minimum flood proofing datum;
- 3) Grouted-in glass blocks (water sealed) are used instead of the window if no window well is provided;

- 4) The below flood datum windows are removed from the design; or,
- 5) A combination of any of the above four noted options.

Please note, the use of metal window wells is a temporary flood proofing measure and is not usually approved unless the existing grade is well above the required minimum regulatory flood proofing elevation.

CARRIED

*Recommended:*

Jason Wintermute  
Supervisor, Water Management

*Reviewed:*

Mark Peacock, P. Eng.  
C.A.O. / Secretary-Treasurer

### 8.3) Camper Rules – Policy

#### 2019 Updated Camper Rules – LTVCA all areas

A revised camper's rules package has been updated to include all of the LTVCA's Conservation Areas, attached below.



### Camper Rules

Before making a reservation through our online reservation system, please familiarize yourself with the following rules:

1. Camp site permit holders are subject to all rules and regulations which govern the use of the Conservation Area. A copy of these regulations may be obtained at the Authority's Administration Office, from the Conservation Area District Supervisor and is available on the LTVCA website. Violation of these regulations or the below camping rules may result in the cancellation of the camping permit.
2. All camping reservations require the signature/acceptance of terms and conditions of a person 18 years of age or older at the time the permit is issued. The person signing the permit must occupy the site.
3. All camping reservations (serviced or un-serviced campsite) require full payment of the Camping Fee for the entire duration of stay at the time that reservation is made.
4. In case of multiple reservations for the same time period, each campsite must be registered under the name of the actual occupant.
5. Any changes to reservation dates, change of campsite, or cancellation requires notice 24 hours prior of reservation date. (A 100% refund will apply). If reservation changed within 24 hours of reservation date, no refund will be provided.
6. The campsite permit authorizes 5 persons per site excluding additional family units (family units must consist of children under 18), designated in the permit.
7. Permit allows one main camping unit (i.e. trailer / RV, tent trailer or tent) one additional tent or eating area and two vehicles (second vehicle at additional cost), to occupy a campsite.

8. Display permit on the site numbered post.
9. Camping is only permitted in the designated camping areas.
10. Hydro service is provided to the main campsite unit only, where applicable.
11. The LTVCA is not responsible for any loss, theft or damage to campers' property.
12. Help keep the Conservation Area clean, dispose of all garbage in designated garbage disposal areas, and please recycle where possible.
13. Firewood can be purchased at entrance building at CM Wilson and can be ordered and delivered upon date of arrival for all other areas. Please do not collect wood (live or dead) from the forest. Please do not bring firewood into or out of the Conservation Area due to invasive species concerns. Only approved sources will be allowed into the area and/or approved wood certified by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/plants/forestry/don-t-move-firewood/firewood/eng/1330963478693/1330963579986>
14. No person shall remove, prune, injure or destroy any tree, shrub, plant or other living thing in the Conservation Area.
15. No person shall remove or destroy any man made material object or natural feature found within the Conservation Area.
16. Rowdy behaviour, excess noise or swearing will not be tolerated.
17. No generators will be permitted on the sites.
18. Respect posted speed limits. Curving roadways and trees may obstruct your view. Pedestrians may be walking on the roadways and/or dart out from trail paths onto roadways.
19. Quiet hours: excessive noise will not be permitted between the hours of 11 PM to 7 AM.
20. In an effort to ensure a water supply to our visitors, lawn watering, washing of cars or trailers without the District Supervisor's approval is prohibited.
21. All pet owners must ensure that their pet does not make excessive noise or disturb other campers and that they are on a leash at all times. Pets are prohibited in any of the washrooms, showers or beach area. No more than two pets are permitted on a campsite. Pet owners must comply with all provincial legislation or local by-laws with respect to ownership and control of their pets. All dogs must have up-to-date dog tags on collars at all times. You are responsible to clean up after your pet.
22. Feeding or disturbing wildlife is prohibited. Store food in your vehicle or animal resistant containers.
23. Beach and water features are unsupervised. Use at own risk. Parents / guardians are responsible for their children's safety.
24. On-site discharge of grey water or sewage tanks is prohibited unless discharged into a LTVCA approved facility.
25. Campground visitors (other than permit holders) must leave the Conservation Area by 11:00 pm.
26. The LTVCA reserves the right to evict, without a refund, any or all persons whose conduct or actions are detrimental to the operation of the campground and the enjoyment of the public. Upon such cancellation, hydro service will be disconnected.
27. A camper MUST NOT ATTEMPT to sell, transfer, lease, sublet, or assign the campsite and the responsibilities, privileges, and obligations provided under a Permit, in total or in part, to another person, unless given approval by the District Supervisor.
28. A \$150.00 site cleanup fee will be charged to the site owner if left in an un-kept state at the end of the stay.

## **Fees**

For a complete list of fees please consult our fee schedules.

## **Campsite maximums and other info**

Your campsite fee entitles you to the following:

- One picnic table per site.
- Parking for one vehicle per site (a second vehicle per site is allowed for an additional fee).
- One fire pit per site.

- Three pieces of equipment allowed on campsite; including one piece of equipment with wheels (camper or trailer) and dining shelter. A maximum of two sleeping units is allowed per campsite.
- A maximum of five people per site (additional family members allowed see rule #6).
- Check-in after 2 p.m. on arrival date.
- Campsite must be vacated by noon on departure date.
- Group camping will limited to 35 persons or at the discretion of the District Supervisor

If any maximum is exceeded, another campsite is required.

Date of last revision: May 2019

**E-2019-14**

T. Thompson – P. Tiessen

Moved that the above update to the Camper Rules be implemented in the 2019 camping season.

CARRIED

*Recommended:*

Randall Van Wagner  
Manager, Conservation Lands and Services

*Reviewed:*

Mark Peacock, P. Eng.  
C.A.O. / Secretary-Treasurer

## 8.4) Cannabis Use – Policy

### Proposed Policy – Cannabis Use in Conservation Areas

#### Cannabis

Cannabis is legalized and strictly regulated in Canada. It is your responsibility to understand federal, provincial, and municipal regulations for cannabis use.

Provincial and municipal cannabis legislation applies to all LTVCA conservation areas. Understanding local laws on cannabis use is important when planning your stay / visit.

#### Where cannabis can be used

1. In LTVCA campgrounds, cannabis consumption is limited to the visitor's campsite.
2. Consumption is not permitted in campground common areas (such as beaches, playgrounds, pavilions, day use areas, washrooms, trails, or roads.)

#### Alcohol

1. In LTVCA campgrounds, alcohol consumption is limited to the visitor's campsite.
2. Alcohol is not allowed at beaches, playgrounds, pavilions, day use areas, washrooms, trails, or roads.
3. During certain periods of the year, specific campgrounds may have temporary alcohol bans in effect. These will be identified through notices posted online and at the campgrounds.

#### Smoking and Vaping

1. Be aware of provincial smoking and vaping regulations regarding distances from buildings, playgrounds, and other facilities.
2. Cannabis is legalized and strictly regulated in Canada. It is your responsibility to understand federal, provincial, and municipal regulations for cannabis use.



## Outside of LTVCA campgrounds and within other LTVCA Conservation Areas

Public cannabis and alcohol consumption rules differ. Find details below, and always check the official regulations for the province and municipality you will be visiting.

- Public use (including day-use areas): Not Allowed
- Registered campsites: Allowed
- Campground common areas: Not allowed
- Trails: Not Allowed
- Playgrounds: Not allowed

### **E-2019-13**

C. Cowell – R. Leatham

Moved that the above Cannabis Use in Conservation Areas policy be implemented for the 2019 camping season, and further that a revised policy be developed to address designated smoking and vaping areas and brought back before the Executive Committee for consideration.

CARRIED

#### *Recommended:*

Randall Van Wagner  
Manager, Conservation Lands and Services

#### *Reviewed:*

Mark Peacock, P. Eng.  
C.A.O. / Secretary-Treasurer

## **8.5) Bill 108 Comments**

### **Bill 108 Comments, LTVCA Response**

Modernizing Conservation Authorities (report initially received at the April 18, 2019 board of Directors meeting)

Under the Conservation Authorities Act (CAA) Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities were created at the request of municipalities and are governed by a board appointed by member municipalities. Conservation Authorities are tasked with delivery of local resource management programs at a watershed scale.

The mandate of Conservation Authorities is defined in section 20 of the act (CAA) as the "objects" of an Authority: 20 (1) The objects of an authority are to provide, in the area over which it has jurisdiction, programs and services designed to further the conservation, restoration, development and management of natural resources other than gas, oil, coal and minerals. R.S.O. 1990, c. C.27, s. 20; 2017, c. 23, Sched. 4, s. 18.

Over the last few years, a number of changes and updates have been undertaken to modernize Conservation Authorities. Many changes were brought forward with the passing of Bill 139, which made changes to the Conservation Authorities Act. These changes were supported by all parties of the legislature. A number of changes in Bill 139 and were not implemented by the end of the last government. The current government is moving forward with these changes.

The updates to the act and CA programs were due to a number of concerns expressed by Ontarians including:

- Some municipalities are concerned about the cost to fund Conservation Authorities
- Developers and landowners are concerned about the complexity and burden of regulations in the development industry and how the Conservation Authorities regulations can be simplified
- Not all programs are being delivered consistently across the province
- All parties wish to increase customer service and accountability

- The Provincial Auditor's report on the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority brought to light a number of issues around governance and board accountability

As extreme weather, particularly heavy rains and flooding become more frequent due to climate change, a concern that hits home in the LTVCA watershed, Conservation Authority work in flood plain management is increasingly important. Conservation Authorities play an important role in Ontario's land use planning and environmental protection process. CAs not only help protect people and property from extreme weather such as flooding and other natural hazards, but they also protect drinking water sources and work to conserve natural resources.

The Province of Ontario has defined a number of core programs and services for Conservation Authorities to deliver consistently across the province. This does not mean that local municipalities and CA boards cannot also deliver programs to meet local needs. The province is consulting with stakeholders and the public to determine how CAs can improve delivery of provincially defined core programs and services. In doing this, the province has a number of proposals:

#### Proposed Legislative Amendments

- Define the provincially required core mandatory programs and services to be offered by all CAs regarding natural hazard protection and management, conservation and management of CA lands, and source water protection
- Increase transparency in how CAs levy municipalities for mandatory and non-mandatory programs and services
- Update the CAA to conform with modern transparency standards -
- Provide a transitional period for CAs to sign long term MOUs with municipalities to define levy for provincially non-mandatory programs and services
- Enable the minister to appoint auditors to review CAs
- Clarify that the duty of CA board members is to act in the best interest of the CA, similar to not-for-profit organizations

#### Proposals regarding Development permitting

Ontario is proposing to:

- Update definitions in the act and regulations to align with natural hazard management intent of the regulation
- Clarify restrictions around wetlands that do not help mitigate risks of flooding
- Exempt low risk development activities from requiring a permit
- Allow CAs to exempt other low risk activities reform requiring a permit
- Require CAs to consult when making development policies and have these available to the public
- Require CAs too notify the public when regulated areas change i.e. flood plains and erosion areas
- Require CAs to establish, monitor and report on service deliver standards

To proceed with these proposals, two new postings have been made to the Environmental Registry of Ontario [that will implement the changes](#): (links with provincial statements regarding each posting)

#### [Modernizing conservation authority operations - Conservation Authorities Act](#)

Proposes to introduce amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act*, which if passed, would help conservation authorities focus and deliver on their core mandate, and to improve governance.

**Deadline for Comments: May 20, 2019**

#### [Focusing conservation authority development permits on the protection of people and property](#)

Proposes a regulation that outlines how conservation authorities permit development and other activities for impacts to natural hazards and public safety. The proposed regulation will make rules for development in hazardous areas more consistent to support faster, more predictable and less costly approvals.

## In Summary

Many of the proposed changes will benefit the CAs and a number of elements have already been or are being addressed at the LTVCA. We look forward to working with Conservation Ontario and the provincial government to continue the modernization and updating of Conservation Authorities that was begun in 2017.

Attached is the LTVCA's correspondence and response table that was sent to Mr. Alex McLeod, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry for EBR Postings 013-5018 - Modernization of Conservation Authority Operations and to Schedule 2 Bill 108 (Attachment #1), and 013-4992 - Amendment to Conservation Authorities Regulations for Development Permits (Attachment #2).

### **E-2019-15**

C. Cowell – P. Tiessen

Moved that the submission and response table regarding EBR Postings 013-5018 - Modernization of Conservation Authority Operations and to Schedule 2 Bill 108 (Attachment #1), and 013-4992 - Amendment to Conservation Authorities Regulations for Development Permits (Attachment #2) be endorsed by the LTVCA Executive Committee.

CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted  
Mark Peacock, P. Eng.  
C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer

# 9. Business for Information

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## 9.1) a) Executive Committee Minutes – April 26, 2019

### LOWER THAMES VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

#### MINUTES

FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2019

A meeting of the Conservation Authority's Executive Committee was held on Friday, April 26, 2019 at the Authority's Administration Building at 100 Thames Street, Chatham, Ontario at the hour of 9:00 AM. A roll call was held with the following committee members present: L. McKinlay, T. Thompson, C. Cowell, P. Tiessen, & R. Leatham.

Also present were the following staff members: Mark Peacock, Jason Wintermute & Jason Homewood.

1. Call to Order

Chair, Linda McKinlay called the meeting of the Executive Committee to order at 9:00 AM.

2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

None declared.

3. Motion to sit as a Hearing Board.

E-2019-02 P. Tiessen – C. Cowell

Moved that the Executive Committee sit as a Hearing Board.

CARRIED

4. Hearing #1 – CA Application #137-2019 (6523 Krista Lane, Southwest Middlesex, Ontario).

The Chair introduced the Hearing Board members and the secretary to the applicants. The applicants were in attendance for the hearing. Jason Homewood, Water Resources and Regulations Technician provided the Hearing Board with the staff report which was previously provided to the applicant on April 16, 2019 and to the Executive Committee on April 18, 2019 and also provided a power point presentation regarding this application. The applicant was provided an opportunity to be heard. The applicant had no comments other than they agreed with the staff report.

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

The Chair requested that the applicants, Mr. Wintermute, and Mr. Homewood leave the meeting in order that the Hearing Board could meet in camera.

**E-2019-03** R. Leatham – P. Tiessen  
Moved that the Hearing Board meet 'in camera'.

CARRIED

**E-2019-04** P. Tiessen – C. Cowell  
Moved that the Hearing Board move out of the 'in camera' session.

CARRIED

The Chair advised the applicant and staff of the Hearing Board's decision.

The decision was that the application be approved with the following conditions:

- 1) The proposed structure and its septic system are to be located as per the site plan provided to this office on 24 February 2019.
- 2) The proposed structure is to be constructed as per the design drawings provided to this office on 24 February 2019.
- 3) The footings, foundation, and slab are to be constructed as per the engineer's report dated 30 January 2019 which was provided to this office on 24 February 2019.
- 4) The west, south, and east buffer zones on the property are to be maintained in their natural state with no site alteration or grading taking place.
- 5) If soil/fill is to be removed from the property, it is to be removed to a LTVCA-approved location.
- 6) All landscaping plants shall consist of non-invasive species and/or be native species to southwestern Ontario.
- 7) Sediment and erosion control measures shall be implemented as per the engineer's report dated 30 January 2019 which was provided to this office on 24 February 2019.
- 8) All work is to include site restoration of disturbed areas back to, or better than, existing.
- 9) Construction must be well underway prior to the permit lapsing. If construction has not begun prior to the lapsing date of the permit, then a new permit will be required.

5. Hearing #2 – CA Application #136-2019 (4322 Tecumseh Line, Chatham-Kent, Ontario).

The Chair introduced the Hearing Board members and the secretary to the applicants. The applicants and their agent were in attendance for the hearing. Jason Homewood, Water Resources and Regulations Technician provided the Hearing Board with the staff report which was previously provided to the applicant on April 5, 2019 and to the Executive

Committee on April 18, 2019, and provided a power point presentation regarding this application. The applicants and their agent were provided an opportunity to be heard.

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

The Chair requested that the applicants, the agent, Mr. Wintermute, and Mr. Homewood leave the meeting in order that the Hearing Board could meet in camera.

**E-2019-05** R. Leatham – P. Tiessen  
Moved that the Hearing Board meet 'in camera'.

**CARRIED**

**E-2019-06** R. Leatham – T. Thompson  
Moved that the Hearing Board move out of the 'in camera' session.

**CARRIED**

The Chair advised the applicant and staff of the Hearing Board's decision.

The decision was that the application be refused based on the following reasons:

1. The proposed development affects the control of flooding;
2. The existing lot and road are below the regulatory flood datum of the Thames River of 177.09 m (CGVD28);
3. The proposed additions are 3,371 square feet or a 174% increase in building area;
4. The existing structure and the proposed additions are not being proposed to be flood proofed;
5. The board-approved policies only provide for a 25% increase in floor area without flood proofing; and,
6. The proposal is not in compliance with board-approved policies.

**E-2019-07** T. Thompson – C. Cowell  
Moved that the Hearing Board sit as the Executive Committee.

**CARRIED**

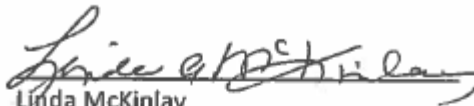
#### **6. Other Business**

None noted.


**E-2019-08** P. Tiessen  
Moved that the meeting be adjourned.

**CARRIED**





Linda McKinlay  
Chair



Mark Peacock, P.Eng.  
CAO/Secretary-Treasurer

## 9.1) b) Executive Committee Minutes – May 24, 2019

### LOWER THAMES VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

#### MINUTES

**FRIDAY, MAY 24, 2019**

A meeting of the Conservation Authority's Executive Committee was held on Friday, May 24, 2019 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, T. Thompson, C. Cowell, P. Tiessen, & R. Leatham.

Also present were the following staff members: M. Peacock & V. Towsley.

1. Call to Order

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

2. Adoption of the Agenda

**E-2019-09**

P. Tiessen – R. Leatham

Moved that the Agenda be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

3. Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

None declared.

4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

a. Personnel & Finance/Executive Committee minutes - April 10, 2017

b. Executive Committee minutes - February 28, 2019

c. Executive Committee minutes - April 26, 2019

**E-2019-10**

R. Leatham – P. Tiessen

Moved that the previous Executive Committee meeting minutes for April 10, 2017, February 28, 2019 and April 26, 2019 be approved.

CARRIED

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## 5. Business for Approval

### a. TD Bank Account Closures

**E-2019-11** C. Cowell – P. Tiessen

Moved that the LTVCA close the LTVCA TD Canada Trust bank accounts and transfer all funds to our CIBC bank accounts.

CARRIED

### b. Proposed Development Policy – Window Wells as a means of Flood Proofing

**E-2019-12** T. Thompson – P. Tiessen

Moved that the Executive Committee approve the draft wording (noted below) to be incorporated into the LTVCA's Operational Guidelines; and

That the draft wording be placed on the LTVCA website for public review and comment; and further

That the draft policy be brought to the next Board of Directors meeting for review and approval.

#### **Draft Wording for Guideline:**

There are five options to consider when openings (ex: basement windows/crawl space vents) into the structure are requested below the minimum flood proofing datum:

- 1) The sill elevation of the basement windows are raised to the required minimum flood proofing datum;
- 2) A basement window sill can be below the regulatory flood datum provided that there is a permanent poured concrete window well set to the elevation of the required minimum flood proofing datum;
- 3) Grouted-in glass blocks (water sealed) are used instead of the window if no window well is provided;
- 4) The below flood datum windows are removed from the design; or,
- 5) A combination of any of the above four noted options.

Please note, the use of metal window wells is a temporary flood proofing measure and is not usually approved unless the existing grade is well above the required minimum regulatory flood proofing elevation.

CARRIED

### c. Proposed Policy – Cannabis Use in Conservation Areas

The Executive Committee discussed the proposed policy and accepted it, and requested that it be expanded in the future to include the designation of smoking and vaping areas including cannabis use within our conservation areas. Staff will have to review how that

might affect our private and public events and the potential of designated smoking areas as we have three different areas of consideration:

1. *Campsites* – privately rented lots in conservation area lands, renter is allowed to smoke, drink, vape and use cannabis on their site;
2. *General assembly areas* – currently, the public is allowed to smoke anywhere within the LTVCA's conservation areas, will have to consider areas to be designated for smoking and vaping use; and
3. *Rented facilities* – will have to decide if, how and where to designate smoking areas within our rental agreements with the renters.

**E-2019-13**

C. Cowell – R. Leatham

Moved that the above Cannabis Use in Conservation Areas policy be implemented for the 2019 camping season, and further that a revised policy be developed to address designated smoking and vaping areas and brought back before the Executive Committee for consideration.

CARRIED

- d. 2019 Updated Camper Rules – LTVCA all areas

**E-2019-14**

T. Thompson – P. Tiessen

Moved that the above update to the Camper Rules be implemented in the 2019 camping season.

CARRIED

- e. Bill 108 Comments

M. Peacock provided a Power Point presentation breaking down the comments the LTVCA provided for the EBR postings for 013-5018 - Modernization of Conservation Authority Operations and to Schedule 2 Bill 108, and 013-4992 - Amendment to Conservation Authorities Regulations for Development Permits to the Executive Committee.

**E-2019-15**

C. Cowell – P. Tiessen

Moved that the submission and response table regarding EBR Postings 013-5018 - Modernization of Conservation Authority Operations and to Schedule 2 Bill 108 (Attachment #1), and 013-4992 - Amendment to Conservation Authorities Regulations for Development Permits (Attachment #2) be endorsed by the LTVCA Executive Committee.

CARRIED

6. Other Business

None noted.


7. Adjournment

**E-2019-16** P. Tiessen – R. Leatham  
Moved that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

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Linda McKinlay  
Chair



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Mark Peacock, P. Eng.  
CAO/Secretary-Treasurer

## 9.2) Water Management

### 9.2.1) Lake Erie Action Plan

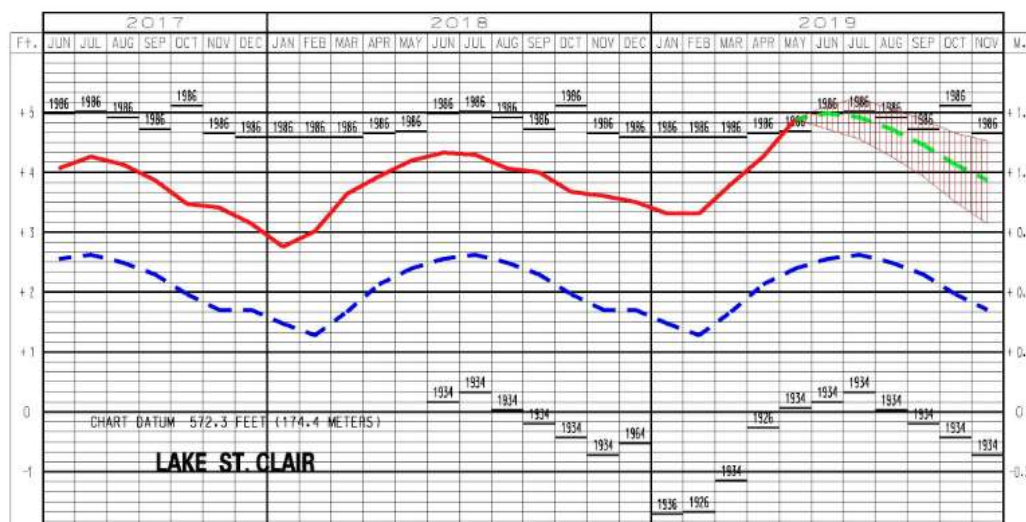
On May 23rd, LTVCA staff attended a meeting of the Canada-Ontario Lake Erie Action Plan (LEAP) Implementation Team. As an agency which made commitments to the LEAP, the LTVCA is a member of the Implementation Team, along with our neighbouring Conservation Authorities and our member municipalities of Leamington and London. Due to the change in provincial government, there were delays in reconvening the Implementation Team and the deadline was missed for commitment E2:1 “Canada and Ontario will build on existing governance structures to ensure partner participation in the implementation of the action plan. Parties identified in the plan will work together to develop a workplan by February 2019 that establishes timelines for actions and expected phosphorus reductions (as applicable), identifies lead agencies, and determines the investment required”. Work on this Action Plan has restarted and the LTVCA has been working on its contribution to the Action Plan starting with quantifying all the phosphorous reduction efforts taken by the LTVCA since 2008 and attempting to outline its future funded commitments and unfunded potential activities. Work on the LTVCA’s other commitments continue.

### 9.2.2) Flood Forecasting and Operations

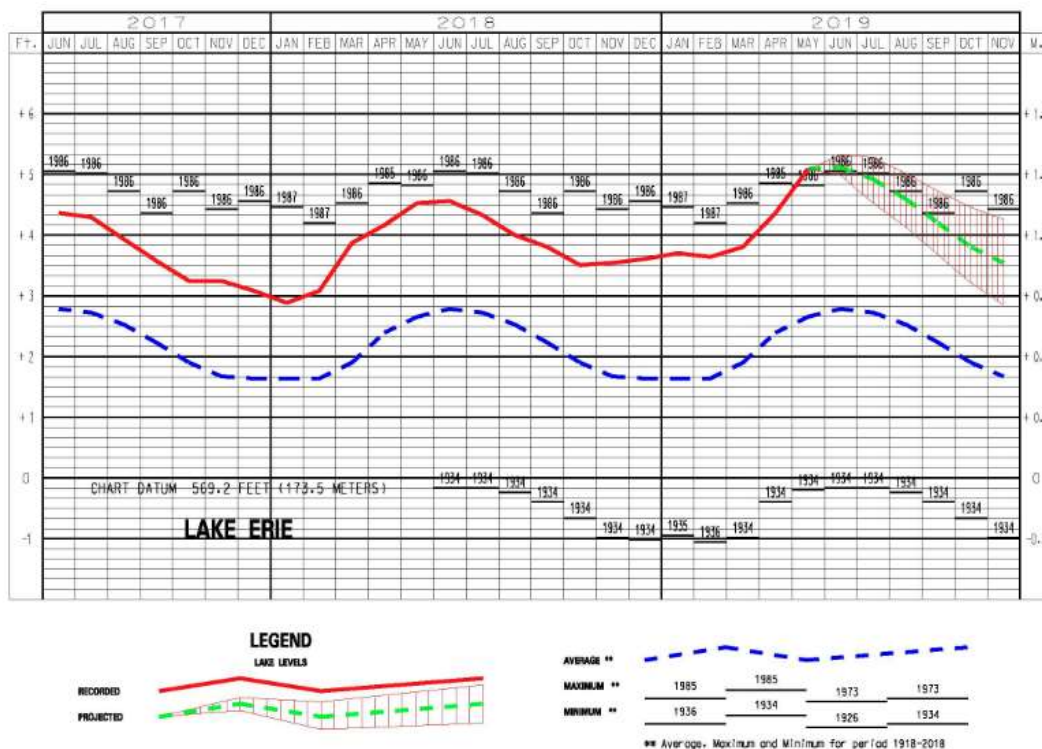
There have been 27 flood messages issued since the last Board of Directors agenda was drafted. These messages covered a broad range of water related hazards. There were: 3 Safety Bulletins for Lake Erie, 3 Safety Bulletins covering both Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair, 1 Flood Outlook for Lake Erie and 1 for Lake St. Clair, 6 Flood Watches for Lake Erie, 2 Flood Watches for both Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair and 4 Flood Warnings for Lake Erie. For the Thames River and/or its tributaries, there were 2 Safety Bulletins, 2 Flood Outlooks, and 1 Flood Watch. There was 1 Flood Outlook and 1 Flood Watch issued for both the Lake Erie and local watercourses together.

The Indian-McGregor Creek Diversion was operated only once since the last Board of Directors agenda was drafted. This occurred between April 20<sup>th</sup> and April 22<sup>nd</sup>. It was brought to the attention of LTVCA staff that the operation of the Diversion Dam came up as a topic of discussion at a recent town hall meeting of South Kent residents on May 7<sup>th</sup>. (LTVCA staff were not present at the meeting.) Some residents/farmers expressed concerns that the dam was being operated prematurely. A response was drafted and provided to the local municipal councillors.

The nature of flooding has changed significantly since last year due to high water levels. Water levels on Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair have broken records. The record high monthly mean water levels for May were broken on both Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair. Based on preliminary numbers, this May broke the overall record high monthly mean water level on Lake Erie. On Lake St. Clair, the monthly mean water levels for May were only 7 cm below the overall high set in October of 1986. However, entering June, average daily mean water levels were within 1 or 2 cm of that record monthly mean.







Over the last few years on Lake Erie, the primary area of flooding had been Erie Shore Drive. The flooding along Erie Shore Drive was primarily due to waves hitting the shoreline protection and spraying up onto the land. This repeated action would end up putting significant amounts of water on the land and cause flooding. A similar effect can happen down near Wheatley. Over the last few years residents along Erie Shore Drive have made modifications to their properties that have helped decrease the impacts. While this type of flooding still occurs along Erie Shore Drive, with the higher water levels there are now more issues around Rondeau Bay. Water levels are very near ground level around Rondeau Bay including around the communities of Erieau and Shrewsbury. Some low lying properties in Shrewsbury constantly have water on them. The constantly high water table is also causing problems for basements, crawlspaces and septic systems. On top of that, when there are strong winds out of the northeast or east, water is pushed to the west end of the lake which raises water levels around the bay. The even higher water levels, and the waves produced by those winds, can cause flooding on the bay side of Erieau and from the bay and canals in Shrewsbury. High water levels have also caused problems for shoreline protections and even municipal diking works in the area. Most recently, the flooding that occurred early on June 15<sup>th</sup> caused damage to the Erie Shore Drive roadway. The road had to be closed until further notice. Rose Beach line had already been closed due to shoreline erosion.

High water levels on Lake St. Clair have also caused problems. The high water is causing issues for low lying properties around Lighthouse Cove. As a result, one low spot on Mariners Drive now constantly has water on it. Haven Avenue frequently requires pumping to keep the water down. The high water table is also causing problems for basements, crawlspaces and septic systems. There are a few homes in the area that seem to have constant flooding issues. The LTVCA's own property at the Lighthouse is having problems with water in the basement. Strong winds out of the west and northwest will push water across the lake and cause elevated water levels in the Lighthouse Cove area and the shoreline along Chatham-Kent. This can cause the water levels in the canals to rise and cause flooding. The waves produced by those high winds can also cause erosion and produce flooding when waves overtop shoreline protection works or spray from the waves hitting shoreline protection works overtops them. High water levels have also caused problems for shoreline protection and municipal diking works in this area as well. Most recently, in the late afternoon and evening of May 10<sup>th</sup>, and during the evening and overnight of May 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup>, Lighthouse Cove saw some of the worst lake-related flooding it has seen in many years. In addition to the previously mentioned roads, there was water on Tisdelle Drive (south of Melody Drive), Tisdelle Drive (north of Lakeside Drive) and Crest River Avenue from the canals, and on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and Island Crescent from the lake.

The effect of these high lake levels is not limited to shoreline areas. Smaller watercourses that drain into Rondeau Bay are much more susceptible to rain events because their downstream ends are already filled with lake water. There have also been issues with sand being pushed up into the drains along the Lake Erie shoreline, blocking them and causing flooding upstream.

The high water levels on Lake St. Clair are also having an impact on the Thames River itself. With normal lake levels, the low lying river flats from Thamesville downstream would almost never see water without a large event originating in the Upper Thames. With lake levels so high, water levels in the downstream areas of the Thames River are always elevated and heavy local rainfalls can now raise the river enough to cover the sidewalk in downtown Chatham with little notice. This has also contributed to increased flooding risk on the Thames River itself from more traditional spring melts or ice jam events.

In addition to these increased flooding risks, there are also increased risks of damage to shoreline protection works and erosion. In addition to those areas mentioned above, all shoreline areas are at increased risk from erosion including the high bluff areas.

### 9.2.3) Flood Control Structures

Regular seasonal maintenance continues on all the Authority's flood control structures. Beyond this, the primary activity recently with regard to the structures has been debris removal. The frequent rains have led to lots of debris getting flushed into the region's watercourses. But the high lake levels and resulting backwater in the watercourses have led to sluggish flows and the debris is getting hung up or blown around by winds rather than washing away. Staff have had to go out on multiple occasions to clean out debris around the 6th Street Dam and the Diversion Dam.

### 9.2.4) Low Water Response Program

During the spring, summer and autumn, brief reports outlining the watershed conditions as they relate to the Low Water Response Program are created by LTVCA staff. During the winter, as demand for water across the watershed is significantly less, these reports are not created. With the extremely wet spring, the LTVCA has not yet generated a low water report. However, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry does broad screening throughout the province all year long for the program. Based on that screening, the Lower Thames watershed was not in any type of low water condition.

### 9.2.5) Watershed Monitoring

Watershed wide surface water quality monitoring continues on a monthly basis at 22 sites throughout the watershed. In addition to the usual surface water quality monitoring, benthic invertebrate monitoring was conducted in May. Benthic monitoring is conducted in partnership with the University of Windsor as part of Masters level research to determine the most appropriate methods of conducting benthic sampling in the unique clay plains of southwestern Ontario.

Dan Bittman was hired in early May to fill the Watershed Monitoring Specialist (formerly Water Quality Specialist) position. Dan has environmental degrees from Wilfrid Laurier University and the University of Western Ontario. He has more than five years of experience monitoring water resources and species-at-risk at the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority, Upper Thames River Conservation Authority, and Town of Fort Erie. Dan also teaches statistics as an adjunct faculty at Nipissing University. As the LTVCA Watershed Monitoring Specialist, Dan is responsible for overseeing and conducting monitoring of pertinent watershed environmental conditions within the LTVCA jurisdiction, ensuring subwatershed water quality and quantity monitoring stations remain operational, managing the PWQMN and PGMN programs, and assisting with managing the



monitoring of the McGregor and Jeanette's Creek Phosphorus Reduction Program. Dan is excited to bring his experience to LTVCA to help understand, and improve, water conditions throughout the watershed.

#### 9.2.6) Harmful Algal Blooms

Both the western basin of Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair suffer from a risk of Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs). These blooms are composed of cyanobacteria that can produce toxins under certain conditions. The ones spoken about most frequently are Microcystis and its toxin Microcystin-LR. Generally speaking, the blooms in Lake St. Clair are fed by nutrients from the Thames River, whereas the blooms in the open waters of the western basin are fed by the Maumee River. However, nearshore blooms on the Canadian side of Lake Erie are also fed by Canadian sources.

The algae season is considered to be from June through October. Staff from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) were out sampling for HABs on Lake Erie during the week of June 10th and on Lake St. Clair the week of June 17th. Throughout the rest of the algae season MECP will be sampling every 2 weeks. Standard Operating Procedures for drinking water intakes on the lakes are being revised this year for microcystin sampling. (See correspondence).

Leading up to the algae bloom season, the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration issues forecasts for the bloom season. The most recent forecast was from June 11th and can be found in correspondence. Current forecasts are suggesting a bloom substantially larger than last year and something similar to 2017.

Reports from the public regarding HABs are to be directed to the Spills Action Centre (SAC) at 1-866-MOE-TIPS (663-8477).

*Recommended:*

Jason Wintermute  
Water Management/GIS Specialist

*Reviewed:*

Mark Peacock, P. Eng.  
C.A.O. / Secretary-Treasurer

## 9.3) Regulations and Planning

### 9.3.1) Chatham-Kent Shoreline Management Study

On April 10th, the first public meetings were held for the Chatham-Kent Shoreline Management Study at Erieau Fire Station #14, in the Multi-Purpose Room. The meeting was extremely well attended and for the afternoon session people had to be turned away as the room capacity had been exceeded. To compensate for this, a second afternoon session was added at the last minute. One of the sessions was recorded and posted online. Overall for the 3 sessions there were somewhere between 270 and 300 people in attendance. In addition, there were 79 people who filled out the online surveys at <https://www.letstalkchatham-kent.ca/>. At the meeting, members of the public got to hear the consultants speak about the overall NRCan funded research and the Chatham-Kent study in particular. The consultants also spoke about climate change in general and how it may impact Chatham-Kent in particular. The presentations were then followed by a question and answer session.

The public posting for the next public information sessions to be held on June 19th and 20th follows:

#### **Next Round of Community Meetings Chatham-Kent Lake Erie Shoreline Study – public posting**

The Chatham-Kent Lake Erie Study Team has now completed the research portion of the work on the future impacts of climate change on coastal storms and we want to present the results to the public. First, we will summarize the results of the erosion and flooding vulnerability assessment, along with the risk to existing buildings and infrastructure. A facilitated question and answer session will follow. Then, the Study Team wants to engage participants in discussions on “Building Community Resilience” and what adaptation strategies are needed to support this goal. Small break-out groups will be used to explore long-term solutions to the erosion and flooding challenges along the Lake Erie shoreline. The meeting will conclude with a summary discussion of the break-out group recommendations and next steps for the study.

Due to the interest in the study, four (4) separate consultation sessions have been scheduled over two days. The same information will be presented at each session. The meeting session details are as follows:

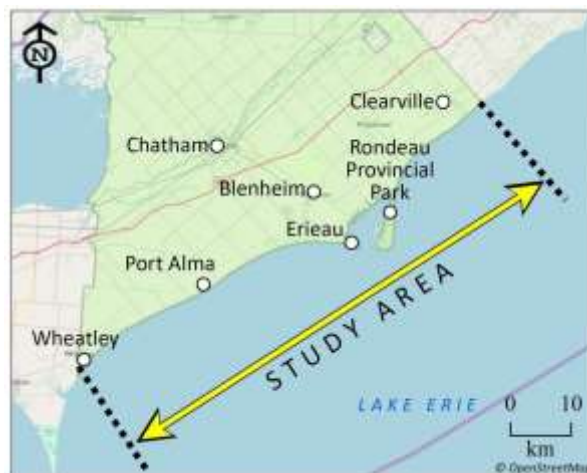
Date: Wednesday, June 19, 2019  
Times: Session 1 - 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm  
Session 2 - 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm  
Location: Erieau Fire Station #14, Multi-Purpose Room  
780 Ross Lane, Erieau

Date: Thursday, June 20, 2019  
Times: Session 3 - 9:30 am to 12:00 pm  
Session 4 - 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm  
Location: Erieau Fire Station #14, Multi-Purpose Room  
780 Ross Lane, Erieau

Due to capacity limits, space for each session is limited. Therefore, we are asking that people please register for a specific session by calling 519-360-1998, by Friday, June 14, 2019.

For more information, please visit: [www.letstalkchatham-kent.ca](https://www.letstalkchatham-kent.ca)

# Chatham-Kent Lake Erie Shoreline Study



## 9.3.2) Secondary Plan for Lighthouse Cove, Town of Lakeshore

Work continues on the Secondary Plan for Lighthouse Cove. LTVCA staff have compiled a substantial amount of background information related to the flooding hazard and provided it to the consultants.

In addition, LTVCA staff attended the public open house held at the Lions Community Park in Lighthouse Cove on the evening of May 5<sup>th</sup>. The LTVCA set up a table with historical photos, technical reports and information brochures. The format of the evening was originally intended to be more informal with attendees able to visit several displays and talk to the consultants, municipal staff, and CA staff. However, the turnout was overwhelming with approximately 133 in attendance. In order to manage the number of people it was decided to hold a more organized question and answer session with Linda McKinlay facilitating.

## 9.3.3) Planning and Regulations

### *Planning*

From the first of April through to the end of May, there have been 49 planning submissions reviewed by staff with respect to Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 152/06. There have also been 127 responses to telephone inquiries that staff have responded to as well as numerous email responses to inquiries.

Planning Numbers	2017 totals	2018 totals	2019 Jan-Mar totals	Apr-May totals
<b>Chatham-Kent</b>	227	185	30	23
<b>Elgin</b>	86	94	12	16
<b>Essex</b>	29	58	5	1
<b>Middlesex</b>	57	55	12	9
<b>Total Numbers</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>49</b>

### *Erieau Open House Meeting*

The Harbour Master for Erieau, Jeff Vidler, requested that a meeting similar to the one held in Shrewsbury on April 3, 2019, which LTVCA regulations staff participated in be held for Erieau as well. The open house will be specific to clarifying regulations in and around Rondeau Bay and Lake Erie. A date will be arranged for later in the summer, and Mr. Vidler will arrange to have staff from the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada along with

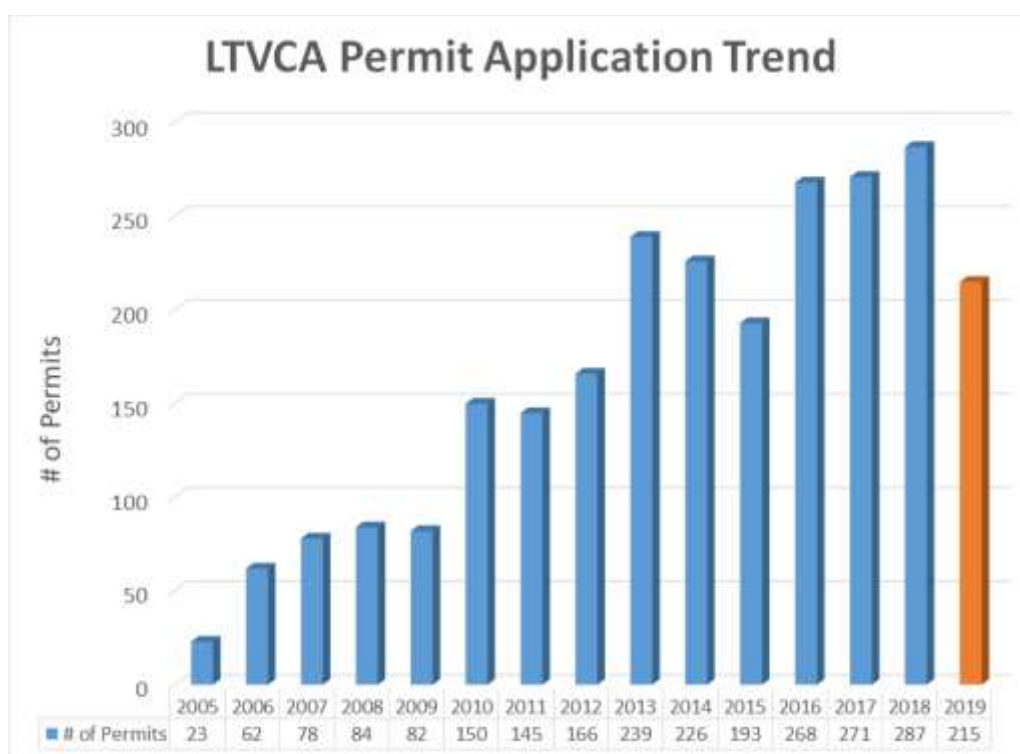
LTVCA staff to provide information on each of our respected mandates and regulations in the area to local residents. A question and answer period will follow.

### **Permitting**

Since the last board update on 18 April 2019 and up to 31 May 2019, staff had received an additional 74 permit applications with respect to Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 152/06. Of the 215 permit applications received in the first five months of 2019, all but five had been approved by staff. Three of those five applications were still open and being reviewed by staff or are awaiting further information to be supplied by the applicant. The remaining two of those five applications required Hearings in front of the Executive Committee as the application proposals were not compliant with board-approved policies.

The two hearings were held on 26 April 2019 where one application was approved with conditions and the other was refused. The details of the applications and the decisions can be found in the Executive Committee meeting agenda and minutes packages.

The graph below illustrates how the number of permit applications has been increasing over the years. The orange bar indicates the number of permits received in the first five months of 2019. With seven months left in the year, it will become the fourth year in a row that records are broken for number of permit applications received, reviewed, and processed.



Below are some Section 28 Permitting statistics for 2019:

- Three habitat/stewardship projects in a LTVCA regulated area have been received and approved with their application fees waived;
- 98 properties were surveyed for permit and official plan flood proofing requirements;
- 76% of all applications were within Chatham-Kent and 11% were within Lakeshore;
- 63% of the applications were for private property owners for projects such as construction or modification of structures, shoreline protection repairs, and/or bank alterations;
- 30% of applications were for municipal projects (drainage or infrastructure); and,
- Total of permit application fees = \$47,050.00 (average of \$218.84 per permit).



## Permit Processing Timelines

From the date of written confirmation of a complete application, conservation authorities are to make a decision (i.e. recommendation to approve or referred to a Hearing) with respect to a permit application and pursuant to the Conservation Authorities Act within 30 days for a minor application and 90 days for a major application. If a decision has not been rendered by the conservation authority within the appropriate timeframe, the applicant can submit a request for administrative review by the CAO and then, if not satisfied, by the LTVCA's Board of Directors. The below table documents the average number of days it takes staff to issue a permit to the applicant from the day the application is first received and from the day a "complete" application is received. Data is from 2015 and up to 31 May 2019.

	Year				2019 (Up to May 31 <sup>st</sup> )
	2015	2016	2017	2018	
<b>Average # of Days to Review Since a Partial Application is Received</b>	26	11	7	13	24
<b>Average # of Days to Review Since a Complete Application is Received</b>	17	5	5	9	18

The above table indicates that application review and processing times between 2015 and 2016 have decreased which is generally attributed to the changing roles and responsibilities of the Regulations Technician, a change in personnel, and the hiring of a Water Quality Specialist. Since 2016, the # of days to process a permit has been increasing which is generally attributed to the fact that the number of permit applications received by this office has continually been increasing year after year (more volume to review and process). Thus far in 2019, the turnaround time for permits ranges between 0 days and 112 days from receipt of a complete application with the average being 18 days.

Since the last board update, the average turnaround time for permits has decreased from 20 days to 18 days.

## Property Inquiries

During the first three months of 2019, 589 property inquiries have been received and responded to by the Regulations Technician. Some of the reasons that staff receive property inquiries include:

- Realtors looking to sell a property and wanting to know any potential restrictions for future buyers.
- People purchasing property who want to know more about the site-specific hazards and regulations.
- Landowners wanting to learn about best management practices specific to their property.
- Landowners wanting specific information on what is permitted in regulated areas.
- Insurance companies looking for floodplain information.
- Municipal staff or utility companies planning future projects.

### 9.3.4) Section 28 Enforcement

In the first three months of 2019, 7 new complaints / tips were received from the public about possible Section 28 enforcement issues. Six of the issues are violations of the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 152/06 with two of those issues being resolved through a Violation Clearance Permit and a third being resolved voluntarily. On-going enforcement issues from 2016, 2017, and 2018 were also monitored and continue to be dealt with. LTVCA staff continue to work towards the rehabilitation of the wetland involved in the 2016 court case with meetings with the defendant's lawyer, agent, and consultants as well as on-site inspections.

### 9.3.5) O.Reg. 152/06 Permit Applications

Staff Report

O.Reg. 152/06 Permit Applications  
(Up to 31 May 2019)

B.D. 06/27/19

APP#	LOCATION	COMMUNITY/ TOWNSHIP	MUNICIPALITY	APP'N TYPE	DECISION
104-2019	3344 Talbot Trail	Romney	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: May 17, 2019
122-2019	19030 Haven Avenue	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Construction	Granted: April 16, 2019
123-2019	Pollard Line over Government Drain No. 1	Tilbury East	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: Mar 28, 2019
124-2019	Cooper Road over Government Drain No. 1	Tilbury East	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: Mar 29, 2019
125-2019	986 Highway 77	Mersea	Leamington	Alteration	Granted: May 15, 2019
126-2019	Bullis Creek Drain	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: April 16, 2019
127-2019	New Scotland Line over McDougall Drain	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: April 16, 2019
128-2019	Buchanan Fenner Drain - Fenner Branch	Tilbury West	Lakeshore	Alteration	Granted: April 16, 2019
129-2019	Prince Albert Road over Arnold Creek	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: April 16, 2019
130-2019	Little John Road over McCollum Drain	Orford	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: April 16, 2019
131-2019	8831 Prince Street	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Construction	Granted: Mar 28, 2019
132-2019	Finn Line over Mancell Drain	Tilbury East	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: April 16, 2019
133-2019	New Scotland Line over Ross Drain	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: April 16, 2019
134-2019	31 Birmingham Lane	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: April 09, 2019
135-2019	Deary Drain	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: April 16, 2019
136-2019	4322 Tecumseh Line	Jeannettes Creek	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Refused: April 26, 2019
137-2019	6523 Krista Lane	Ekfrid	Southwest Middlesex	Construction	Granted: April 26, 2019
138-2019	Grand River Line	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: April 16, 2019
139-2019	11550 Meadowview Road	Rondeau Bay Estates	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: April 04, 2019
140-2019	6309 Pain Court Line	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: April 01, 2019
141-2019	13639 Jane Street	Thamesville	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: April 17, 2019
142-2019	11815 Magnavilla Line	Kent Bridge	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: April 09, 2019
143-2019	19055 Lakeside Drive	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Alteration	Granted: April 09, 2019
144-2019	26131 Argyle Line	Aldborough	West Elgin	Alteration	Granted: April 16, 2019
145-2019	1226 Mariners Road	Erieau	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: April 17, 2019
146-2019	4178 Glenwood Line	Tilbury East	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: April 09, 2019
147-2019	10577 Talbot Trail	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: April 09, 2019
148-2019	7032 Bradt Road	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Construction	Granted: April 16, 2019
149-2019	497 Riverview Drive	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: April 16, 2019
150-2019	Kenesserie Road over Abray Drain	Howard & Orford	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: April 16, 2019
151-2019	Annett Drain	Mosa	Southwest Middlesex	Alteration	Granted: April 16, 2019
152-2019	18026 Melody Drive	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Construction	Granted: April 23, 2019
153-2019	93 Tuscany Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: May 03, 2019
154-2019	18937 Hill Road	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: May 01, 2019
155-2019	23879 Baldoon Road	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: April 18, 2019
156-2019	725 Towanda Boulevard	Erie Beach	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: May 02, 2019
157-2019	19020 Haven Avenue	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Construction	Granted: May 01, 2019
158-2019	19005 Haven Avenue	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Construction	Granted: May 01, 2019
159-2019	107 Brock Street	Shrewsbury	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: April 25, 2019
160-2019	Bell and Bisnett Drain	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: April 24, 2019
161-2019	411 King Street West	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: May 08, 2019
162-2019	5th Concession Line over Campbell Sideroad Drain	Romney	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: May 15, 2019
163-2019	Campbell Road over Gahan Drain East	Romney	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: May 15, 2019
164-2019	14026 Currie Road	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Construction	Granted: May 01, 2019



APP#	LOCATION	COMMUNITY/ TOWNSHIP	MUNICIPALITY	APP'N TYPE	DECISION
166-2019	46 Sherman Street	Thamesville	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: May 03, 2019
167-2019	Buchanan-Fenner Drain - Buchanan Portion	Tilbury West	Lakeshore	Alteration	Granted: May 15, 2019
168-2019	McCaffrey Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Alteration	Granted: May 15, 2019
169-2019	Blind Fourth Line over Hartwick Drain	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: May 15, 2019
170-2019	14 William Street North	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: April 26, 2019
171-2019	6497 Riverview Line	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: May 02, 2019
172-2019	11588 River Line and 23308 Kent Bridge Road	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: May 09, 2019
173-2019	19040 Haven Avenue	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Alteration	Granted: May 08, 2019
174-2019	Fowler Drain - 8122 Union Road	Southwold	Southwold	Alteration	Granted: May 03, 2019
175-2019	3316 Talbot Trail	Romney	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: May 07, 2019
176-2019	Raleigh Plains Drain	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: May 07, 2019
177-2019	Balmoral Line	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: May 15, 2019
178-2019	Murray Drain	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: May 17, 2019
179-2019	6640 Rivard Line	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: May 15, 2019
180-2019	Middleton Line over Two Creeks Drain - East Branch	Romney	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: May 15, 2019
181-2019	Island Crescent	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Alteration	Granted: May 08, 2019
182-2019	21216 Hodovick Road	Romney	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: May 08, 2019
183-2019	23611 Westgate Walk	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: May 08, 2019
184-2019	23 Braemar Boulevard	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: May 09, 2019
185-2019	7372 Grande River Line	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: May 17, 2019
186-2019	4943 Tecumseh Line	Tilbury East	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: May 17, 2019
187-2019	6041 Pain Court Line	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: May 15, 2019
188-2019	Gleeson Line over Government Drain No. 1	Tilbury East	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: May 15, 2019
189-2019	Gleeson Line over McDougall Drain	Tilbury East	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: May 15, 2019
190-2019	13 Adelaide Street	Shrewsbury	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: May 10, 2019
192-2019	Hamilton Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Alteration	Granted: May 24, 2019
193-2019	McCann-McWilliam Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Alteration	Granted: May 24, 2019
194-2019	Howlett Drain	Delaware	Middlesex Centre	Alteration	Granted: May 15, 2019
195-2019	3777 Mint Line	Tilbury East	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: May 17, 2019
196-2019	1245 Post Point Lane	Erieau	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: May 23, 2019
197-2019	8590 Stonehedge Lane	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: May 17, 2019
198-2019	78 Legacy Lane	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: May 24, 2019
199-2019	730 Rivait Drive	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Alteration	Granted: May 23, 2019
200-2019	125 Towanda Boulevard	Erie Beach	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: May 22, 2019
201-2019	8 Nichols Avenue	Erieau	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: May 21, 2019
202-2019	735 Towanda Boulevard	Erie Beach	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: May 23, 2019
203-2019	70 Legacy Lane	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: May 24, 2019
204-2019	11459 Lagonda Way	Rondeau Bay Estates	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: May 23, 2019
205-2019	11638 Bates Line	Rondeau	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: May 24, 2019
206-2019	5105 County Road 46	Tilbury West	Lakeshore	Alteration	Granted: May 24, 2019
207-2019	Button Drain	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: May 30, 2019
208-2019	20957 Woodland Road	Wheatley	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: May 30, 2019
210-2019	Clearville Drain	Orford	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: May 30, 2019
211-2019	East 9th Concession Drain	Tilbury West	Lakeshore	Alteration	Granted: May 29, 2019
212-2019	Brush and Vail Drain	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: May 30, 2019

APP#	LOCATION	COMMUNITY/ TOWNSHIP	MUNICIPALITY	APP'N TYPE	DECISION
213-2019	80 Grand Avenue West	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: May 30, 2019
214-2019	19020 Peninsula Street	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Alteration	Granted: May 31, 2019
215-2019	Waddick Drain	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: May 31, 2019

*Recommended:*

Jason Wintermute

Water Management/GIS Specialist

*Reviewed:*

Mark Peacock, P. Eng.

C.A.O. / Secretary-Treasurer

## 9.4) Conservation Areas

### 9.4.1) January 1 – March 31 Visitation / Camping Stats

#### ***April 1 – May 31 Visitation / Camping Stats***

**Longwoods Road Conservation Area** – 3,030 people (3,541 in 2018) (Includes 2 people per pay & display permit (transaction) Pay and Display Permits - 288 vehicles (327 in 2018)

**E.M. Warwick Conservation Area** – 220 people (267 in 2018)

**Big Bend Conservation Area** – 105 people (27 in 2018)

**C.M. Wilson Conservation Area** – 1,806 people (1,268 in 2018) (Includes 2 people per pay & display permit (transaction) Pay and Display Permits – 125 vehicles (108 in 2018)

**Sharon Creek Conservation Area** – 78 transactions (21 transactions in 2018)

**Season's Day Use Permits sold so far:** 100 (64 in 2018)

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### 9.4.2) Conservation Areas

E.M. Warwick- new steel roofing installed on the main community hall as well as the 4 cabins. New windows installed on all buildings. Vance Stark is back at LTVCA (he worked on the Ska-Nah Doht village) and has brought some good energy to the east!

Big Bend- our new river access sites seem to be a hit with campers, as well as the ability to book a reservation online via “Let’s Camp” on our website. Most signage has been upgraded to provide a more modern look and accommodate our visitors.

Sharon Creek- WECl funding has been approved in the amount of \$5,500 for the replacement of the fencing on the Sharon Creek spillway.

CM Wilson- staff are working on several projects here including: installation of new laundry facility for campers, wedding photo op arbour, painting of the day use washrooms, welcome BBQ for Seasonal Campers, movie nights at the Historic Barn, and installation of the two new floating docks. Staff guided 30 United Steel Worker volunteers with trail mulching, sign installation and shoreline erosion matting. New hire Josh Crawford brings his Military welding skills to our crew.

Delaware- partnering with the non-profit group “*Polli-native*” staff have prepped approximately 1-2 acres of area for the planting of native tallgrass prairie. This will serve to create a more biodiverse area for pollinators, birds, insects and other animals found in this region.

Prihod Land Donation- the LTVCA has been accepted as a qualified recipient through the *American Friends of Canadian Land Trusts* organization. The next phase of the this international donation will be that the donors will work out the legalities with their lawyer and accountant, followed by formally donating the land to *American Friends of Canadian*





*Land Trusts*, after which LTVCA will produce a Master Plan for the property, then the property will be transferred to LTVCA.

Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program's- many of the LTVCA's properties are under specific tax programs that require application and renewal. This year Ekfrid, Rowsom, Two Creek's, and Devereux are due for MFTIP renewal, while several others like Myslik, Ward and Skakel will be submitted to the Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program. Staff applied to *Eco-Canada* and received \$4,500 towards the hiring of *University of Western*, Masters student *Jumanah Khan* that will be assisting with these tax programs and other Conservation Lands projects.



#### 9.4.3) Conservation Area Events (stats included in above)

For all upcoming events please refer to the Events Calendar on the last page of this agenda.

- **April 27 - Mudmoiselle in Chatham-Kent** – C.M. Wilson Conservation Area 350 attendees ran through the obstacle course created by *Winmar* employees to raise money for Cancer Research.
- **June 9- 16<sup>th</sup> annual Trot to the Beach**- McGeachy Pond trail- over 400 attendees
- **April 28 – Native Plants Workshop** – Longwoods – 30

A Resource Centre theatre presentation about native and invasive plants was given by Jerry DeZwart and Carlyn Johnston, followed by a guided hike along woodland trails to the marsh.





**May 5<sup>th</sup> - Big O Birding** staff partnered with the *Iron Kettle Bed and Breakfast* in Comber to host our 5th annual Birding Hike, was well attended with about 70 people present for wild bird release, guided hike by *Paul Pratt* and camera tips by *Chad Barry*.

- **May 5-6 – Longwoods Heritage Weekend – 1,104**

Organized and sponsored by the Upper Thames Military Re-enactment Society.



June 9 – McKinlay Memorial Forest Dedication Service – Merlin (report at meeting)

June 11 – Greening Your Grounds - Administration Building (report at meeting)

June 15 – WWF's Kids' Run For Nature – C.M. Wilson Conservation Area (report at meeting)

**Upcoming Conservation Area events include:**

July 2 – August 20 – Twilight Tuesdays – Longwoods Road Conservation Area

July 14 – Artifact Day – Longwoods Road Conservation Area

July 20 – Discover Species at Risk in the Lower Thames – C.M. Wilson Conservation Area

August 15 – Learn to Fish Workshop – C.M. Wilson Conservation Area

August 16 – Learn to Fish Workshop – Big Bend Conservation Area

August 17 – Learn to Fish Workshop – Sharon Creek Conservation Area

August 18 – Learn to Fish Workshop – Sharon Creek Conservation Area



September 8 – McKinlay Memorial Forest Dedication Service – C.M. Wilson Conservation Area  
September 15 – Memorial Forest Dedication Service – Big Bend Conservation Area  
September 22 – Memorial Forest Dedication Service At Tilbury Northside Park  
September 29 – Spirit of the Harvest and Trillium Grant Recognition Ceremony – Longwoods Road Conservation Area  
October 2 – 4 - 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Chatham-Kent & Lambton Children’s Water Festival – C.M. Wilson Conservation Area  
October 5<sup>th</sup> – Family Day – CK&L Children’s Water Festival – C.M. Wilson Conservation Area  
November 24 – Season’s Greetings – Longwoods Road Conservation Area

For upcoming events not listed here please refer to the Events Calendar on the last page of this agenda and check out “Events” on our website and Facebook page.

*Recommended:*

Bonnie Carey	Randall Van Wagner
Community Relations Coordinator	Conservation Lands & Services Manager

*Reviewed:*

Mark Peacock, P. Eng.  
C.A.O. / Secretary-Treasurer

## 9.5) Conservation Services

### 9.5.1) Conservation Services

#### Tree Planting

Another great tree planting season is behind us, this year we sold in total approximately 70,000 trees. 15,000 trees went to over the counter sales and 55,000 went into our larger project incentive programming. Land owner incentives for the spring seedling program came from many grant programs such as the 50 Million Tree Program, Agriculture Improvement Fund, ALUS and Great Lakes Phosphorus Initiative (GLPI). With the high amount of rain fall this season we hand planted more trees then originally planned but we still ended on time with the help of our seasonal employees Chad Barry and Mei-Ling Bonato.



Seasonal employees Chad Barry and Mei-Ling Bonato.

Through organised pick-up times at Longwoods Conservation Area, 21,100 bare root seedlings were distributed in the eastern portion of the LTVCA watershed to 61 landowners, including both small- and large-scale plantings. Despite the rainy weather, LTVCA staff was able to stay on schedule and finished the planting season prior to June as planned. The LTVCA tree planter was put to good use this season, with five landowners taking advantage of the do-it-yourself tree planting option, saving LTCVA travel across the watershed. Two of our larger eastern planting projects were financially supported by Elgin Stewardship Council and the Elgin Clean Water Program, as well as being enrolled into the ALUS Elgin program.

In April, the Conservation Authorities received notice that the Government of Ontario cancelled our long running 50 Million Tree Program. This year the program helped fund the planting 40,000 trees in our watershed that equals over \$65,000. After hearing this devastating news we quickly got to work finding a new funding source for our tree planting program. On June 5, 2019 World Environment Day, the Federal Government announced they would continue the 50 Million Tree Program for the next 4 years. We are still working on finding donors and sponsor for the program to ensure our tree planting program will be sustained for the long term.

#### Stewardship

Although tree planting season is complete our stewardship staff is still hard at work as we are now planting tallgrass prairie when the weather cooperates and we will begin wetland restoration season shortly.

#### ALUS Chatham-Kent

ALUS Chatham-Kent had a very busy but successful first year. At the March 21, 2019 PAC meeting fifteen projects were approved for funding which includes funds to help with establishment and annual payments. Projects ranged from tree planting, tallgrass prairie, wetlands, buffer strips, rock chutes and delayed hay. All these projects will support sustainable agriculture and help provide clean air and water for all citizens of Chatham-Kent. We are currently accepting expressions of interest for the 2020 field season.

#### ALUS Middlesex

ALUS Middlesex worked with Ausable Bayfield CA and Kettle Creek CA to implement two tree planting projects this season and enrolled fourteen acres into the program.

## Events

- Your Roots are always in CK tree plantings with 12 graduating classes from high schools and post-secondary institutions throughout April and May. Your Roots are Always in Ck is a retention initiative through the Municipality of Chatham-Kent with support from the LTVCA and the Health Unit. Each class receives one tree as congratulations and as a reminder that Chatham-Kent is home and to return after graduation.



Enbridge Gas and the helping hands program in partnership with the Delaware First Nation

- We hosted a Free Tree Giveaway with the Tilbury District High School student council. TDHS hosted a BBQ and gave out a maximum of five free native seedlings per household. 1500 trees were handed out on May 4, 2019 in the school parking lot. This event was geared towards urban landowners that usually cannot access our funding opportunities to green their property. It was well attended and received excellent feedback. We hope to continue the program and expand to other high schools in the area. We are currently looking for a sponsor for the program.

- May 11, 2019 two tree planting events were held one at Clear Creek Forest with the Chatham Lions club. They commemorated their 100 year anniversary by planting 100 trees.

- A second event on May 11, 2019 was sponsored by Enbridge Gas and the helping hands program in partnership with the Delaware First Nation. Two savannah habitats were planted in Moraviantown with White Oak and native tall grass species totalling 5 acres.

- May 25, 2019 a presentation was shown to the Kent Bridge Women's Association on the conservation authority and what we do. Approximately 30 women attended this presentation.

- June 7, 2019 we held a planting event with the Paternoster Club at their wetland complex with the help of the Chippewas of the Thames and Aamjiwnaang First Nations.



The Lions Club of Chatham commemorated their 100 year anniversary by planting 100 trees at Clear Creek

The Elgin Clean Water Program project review committee meeting was held earlier this May at Kettle Creek CA administration office. The LTVCA submitted six projects for funding and received approval for all six projects, with funds totaling \$17,140 for projects within the Elgin County of the watershed.

### 9.5.2) OMAFRA

#### **Phosphorus Reduction Updates**

##### ***AAC and ECCC: McGregor and Jeannette's Creek Phosphorus Reduction Program***

Over the past two months, project staffs have been busy with the completion of several annual reports for project funders. The LTVCA has completed and submitted annual reports to both Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and the Agricultural Adaptation Council (AAC) for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

On April 17<sup>th</sup>, the McGregor and Jeannette's Creek Phosphorus Reduction Program was officially launched and the LTVCA is now working with farmers to assist with planning and accessing funds to implement program supported Best Management Practices (BMPs). Several applications from local landowners have already been submitted and approved for funding. The LTVCA anticipates that participation will increase once spring planting concludes. Subwatershed farmers in Chatham-Kent are encouraged to visit the LTVCA website or contact the Agricultural Program Coordinator to learn more about the incentives that are available through the program.



Furthermore, the LTVCA is in the early stages of planning a summer education and outreach event for subwatershed farmers. The event will focus on highlighting the challenges and opportunities to reduce agriculturally sourced phosphorus, with a specific focus on the region of Chatham-Kent. Additional details regarding the event will be posted in the next board progress report.

With the reduced occurrence of significant runoff events during the latter half of May, the Soil & Water Quality Technician has had time to begin assembling and validating measured data. The next priority for the team is to assemble and validate all of the data being measured in the field by various instruments, prior to its submission to the University of Guelph for use in configuring the subwatershed Soil and Water Assessment Tool (SWAT) Model. The collected data will help the University of Guelph Water Resource Engineers determine a baseline for how much P is currently in the system. In the future, the model will be used to run simulations to determine how effective program implemented BMPs are at reducing agriculturally sourced phosphorus loads in McGregor and Jeannette's Creek.



##### ***McGregor and Jeannette's Creek Subwatershed Water Quality Sampling and Monitoring***

In the months of April and May the Chatham area received rain on 63% of the days (38/61). This has led to some major delays in the planting season in the area as well as an increase in the sampling events. The combination of warmer weather and significant rainfall has caused some soil erosion which is a major source of phosphorus loading into water ways. The photo below illustrates how sediment rich some of the samples can be in this area during this time of year. It is also clear the samples further along in the lineup contain much more sediments, as a result of the increased volume of water moving through the channel or watercourse at that time.





Prolonged periods of rain can leave fields saturated and cause excess water to pond on the soil surface. This situation can cause major delays in spring planting and lead to increased phosphorus loadings. Like many regions across the province the LTVCA's watershed has been delayed in planting spring crops. In addition, winter wheat stands in some areas did not perform well under a wet fall/winter and have been or will be terminated to make way for corn or soybeans.



The conditions have led to an increased sampling demand this spring for project staff. During this busy season the proper upkeep of the equipment is extremely important. Processing samples for laboratory nutrient analysis, charging batteries, changing/cleaning ISCO sampling bottles, and downloaded data are frequent tasks. During the last week of April and the first week of May we observed 5 separate runoff events that require sampling. The project team worked diligently to ensure all events were sampled. This data will be very valuable to assess 2019 spring phosphorus loads.

### ***Thames River Phosphorus Reduction Collaborative (TRPRC)***

During April and May of 2019, the LTVCA continued to perform water quality monitoring services for the TRPRC at the phosphorus filter tank pilot site, located southwest of Chatham. The LTVCA is monitoring the technology to determine its efficacy at reducing phosphorus loads sourced from agricultural subsurface tile drainage systems. The LTVCA has agreed to conduct water quality monitoring services at the site throughout the period of 2018 to 2022. The TRPRC has agreed to provide the LTVCA with \$60,000.00 over the duration for these monitoring services. The TRPRC strategy is aimed at raising awareness and providing extension services to reduce the surface and subsurface transportation of phosphorus off agricultural land, either directly into waterways or via municipal drainage systems. The TRPRC steering committee has representation from a variety of local stakeholders, including: farm organizations, municipalities, ENGOs, the LTVCA, Chatham-Kent Drainage, various academics, and First Nations.

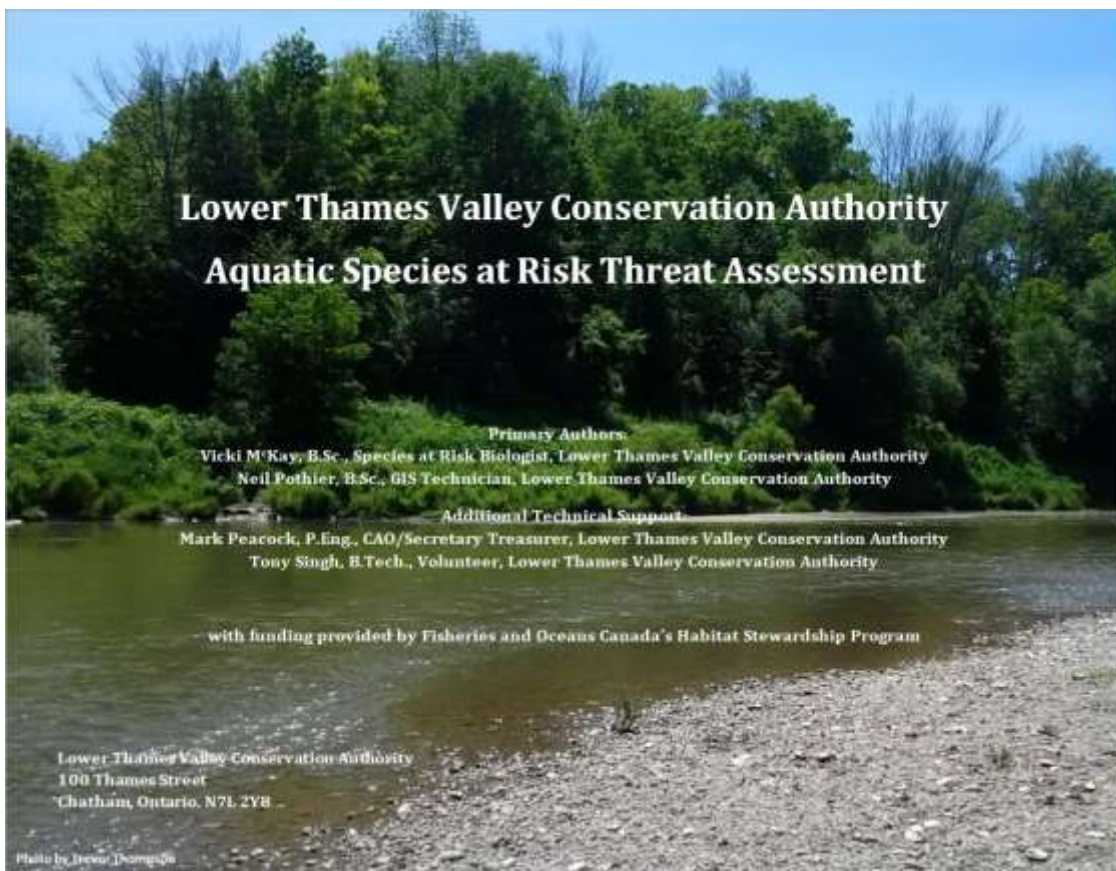


### 9.5.3) Aquatic Species at Risk (SAR)

SAR and GIS staff completed the first year of work on a threat assessment of LTVCA's 58 subwatersheds as it relates to aquatic SAR. The report summarizes subwatershed characteristics, soil types, land cover, species at risk, population density and human use, drainage and barriers to connectivity, surface water quality and quantity, reported spills, water extraction, groundwater quality and quantity and restoration efforts.

Habitat Stewardship Program Funding in the amount of \$100,000 for 2019/20, \$68,500 for 2020/21 and \$67,500 for 2021/22 has been approved by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) for riparian corridor and wetland restoration projects in priority areas (near aquatic SAR), associated communications related to public outreach as well as salt mitigation work in conjunction with member municipalities.

In addition, LTVCA submitted a final funding proposal to the Canada Nature Fund for Aquatic Species at Risk to support completion of the aquatic SAR threat assessment, public and Indigenous outreach activities, habitat stewardship (riparian corridors and wetland restoration) and SAR monitoring to benefit aquatic species at risk. DFO is expected to provide notification of funding results by mid to late June.



#### *Recommended:*

Randall Van Wagner  
Conservation Lands & Services Manager

#### *Reviewed:*

Mark Peacock, P. Eng.  
C.A.O. / Secretary-Treasurer

## 9.6) Community Relations

### 9.6.1) Media releases

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, watershed First Nations communities and Conservation Ontario. They are also emailed to over 200 individuals (day use permit holders, people requesting LTVCA information).

Six media releases were written/distributed in April 2019.

1. (April 15) "Step into Nature – Native Plants Workshop...for nature lovers, gardeners, the curious and fresh air enthusiasts!"
2. (April 16) "Experience some of the best birding in SW Ontario – Step into Nature for the Big O Birding Healthy Hike"
3. (April 17) "McGregor and Jeannettes Creek Phosphorus Reduction Program Launch"
4. (April 23) "Listen, Watch, Taste, Smell – Experience Life of 1812 – Longwoods Heritage Weekend May 4-5"
5. (April 25) "Tree Planting Season has Arrived – Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority Hits the Ground Running this Spring"
6. (April 30) "Plan a Camping Get-Away in Lower Thames Valley Country – Conservation Areas Open Mid-May for Camping Season"

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

### 9.6.2) Displays and Exhibits

Displays and Exhibits are created to update programs and information for the public. The LTVCA had a table and presence at several community events in the new year.

### 9.6.3) Advertisements and Marketing

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 2019. Staff also take out advertisements in the local print media to inform the public about workshops and seminars.

A new **Visual Identity Branding Manual** for the LTVCA is being developed. A Visual Identity Branding Policy is nearing completion.

### 9.6.4) Presentations

Presentations are provided to community groups upon request across the watershed. Support is offered to staff for official openings, funder recognition ceremonies and community events. Just give us a call!

### 9.6.5) Committees and Meetings

Staff sit on many committees and attend numerous meetings as required for their departments on an ongoing basis.



### 9.6.6) LTVCA Website and Social Media (YouTube, Twitter and Facebook)

The LTVCA's website and social media (YouTube, Twitter and Facebook) are updated several times daily with current/relevant Conservation Authority information and events. The website address is [www.ltvca.ca](http://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 and news relating to the watershed are posted. Photos and video clips of programs and projects are taken regularly. We also promote all the Conservation Ontario campaigns such as "Healthy Hikes" and "Source Water Protection".

The number of followers and subscribers on our various social media platforms continues to grow! The LTVCA's Twitter account currently has **917** followers. LTVCA's Facebook page has **1,710** followers and the Ska-Nah-Doht Village Facebook page has **1,202** followers. There are **35** subscribers to our YouTube channel.

**New** is the social media campaign that results in the LTVCA departments having a daily presence on Facebook, Twitter and to our Directors and local politicians.

Mondays – focus on water, flooding, regulations and erosion



Tuesdays – focus on stewardship, restoration, tree planting



Wednesdays – focus on Conservation Areas, natural heritage



Thursdays – focus on education, outreach



Fridays – focus on water quality, quantity, agriculture



A social media policy and procedures is almost completed. Our website will post when completed.

#### 9.6.7) Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation

The Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation has received \$64,800 of the \$72,000 Trillium grant to be used for the Longwoods Feasibility Study in 2018-2019. Sheila Simpson has been contracted as Project Manager for the Study on a short term contract through the Conservation Authority (funded through the Trillium grant budget). She has produced a work plan for 2019. Fred Galloway Associates has been hired as the consultant to do the work on the Longwoods Resource Centre feasibility study. There will be a verbal report at the meeting on progress to date.

Reminder of Roles and Responsibilities:

*LTVCA Authority*

- Support the project

*Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation*

- Administer and account for funds
- Meet grant requirements
- Report to funder

*Trillium Grant Steering Committee*

- Hold meetings with minutes
- Approve payments
- Appoint the consultant
- Appoint project manager

Another Ontario Trillium Foundation capital grant was submitted by the Foundation for \$94,000 of funding (capital and labour costs) to replace the wheelchair accessible boardwalk to the marsh at Longwoods. Fingers are crossed! Thanks to Sheila Simpson and Randall Van Wagner for pulling this together.

The next meeting of the Foundation Directors is June 18 at 7 pm at the Resource Centre.

#### 9.6.8) Publications

Community Relations staff assist Conservation Authority staff with publications as needed. Publications are posted on our website for downloading. Staff assisted with the new McGregor & Jeannette's Creek Phosphorus Reduction Program booklet and webpage. As well, work has begun on a new LTVCA Directors' Handbook. Guidance is being given to contract staff as they create a new LTVCA Conservation Areas booklet.

#### 9.6.9) Applications

Community Relations staff apply for project funding as grants become available. Most recently we applied to the federal Canadian Experiences Fund for \$64,000 to do upgrades to the log cabins at Longwoods Road Conservation Area.

#### 9.6.10) 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.

The second Friday of December by noon is the deadline to receive nominations for the LTVCA's Volunteer Heroes Award. LTVCA watershed individuals can be nominated. Successful nominees receive a pin and certificate and special recognition at the LTVCA's Annual General Meeting in February.

Information about this award and nomination form may be found on the LTVCA website at this link or under the About Us tab: <https://www.lowerthames-conservation.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/About-and-Nomination-Form-LTVCA-Awards-for-Volunteer-Heroes-final.pdf>

A record is kept of all volunteers, their number of hours, projects in which they were involved over the year. In 2018, the 370 dedicated volunteers gave 950 hours of their time towards LTVCA projects and services

#### *Recommended:*

Bonnie Carey  
Community Relations Coordinator

#### *Reviewed:*

Mark Peacock, P. Eng.  
C.A.O. / Secretary-Treasurer

## 9.7) Conservation Authority Education

### 9.7.1) Conservation Education

May through June have been very busy presenting our natural and cultural heritage blended programs to a wide age-range of school groups. Groups ranging from JK through grade 11 have discovered the diversity of nature at Longwoods and have enjoyed experiencing the Haudenosaunee way of life of a thousand years ago. We have been fully booked for these months with teachers and students from public schools, private schools, Montessori, separate and homeschools from all over our watershed ranging from Windsor to Norwich.

First Aid recertification was fit into the schedule to ensure the safety of program participants and visitors.

A Water and Ice Self-Rescue program was instructed to 286 grade 1 through 8 students at Caradoc Public School in Mount Brydges as part of the annual Thames Valley District School Board's Farm Safety Day. Students learned to be aware of dangers, how to help others and get themselves out of life-threatening situations. LTVCA water safety efforts have had and continue to have direct results and impact on area children regarding life-saving student awareness.

### 9.7.2) Conservation Youth Group Workshops

Workshops are held at Longwoods Road Conservation Area and LTVCA outreach locations to youth and their leaders. Youth groups work towards badges for various outdoor activities. There were 0 participants to the end of May. (26 in 2018)

### 9.7.3) Conservation Field Trips for Students and More!

School program statistics for April 1 – May 31 370 students in 2019. (488 in 2018)

### 9.7.4) Chatham-Kent & Lambton Children's Water Festival

Volunteer Coordinator Don Hector is busy with outreach and education and hosting committee meetings for the water festival and fundraising, gearing up for its 10th Anniversary in the fall of 2019. We attended the public day held at Fanshawe Conservation Area on May 16 for their Children's Water Festival to preview their setup and activities selected in preparation for our Public Day.

We attended the CK Youth Festival June 5th to promote our new Chatham-Kent and Lambton Children's Water Festival Family Day planned for the Saturday, October 5th.



### 9.7.5) Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum Field Trips for Students

School program statistics for April 1 – May 31 – 779. (833 in 2018)

### 9.7.6) Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum Group Workshops and Group Self-guided Tours

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.

A total of 142 participants and their leaders took part in Ska-Nah-Doht Village tours and snowshoe workshops March to May. (60 in 2018)

#### *Recommended:*

Bonnie Carey

Community Relations Coordinator

#### *Reviewed:*

Mark Peacock, P. Eng.

C.A.O. / Secretary-Treasurer



## 9.8) Ska-Nah-Doht Advisory Committee Minutes – November 22, 2018



### Ska-Nah-Doht Advisory Committee

#### MINUTES

A meeting of the Ska-Nah-Doht Advisory Committee was held at the Resource Centre in Longwoods Road Conservation Area at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, November 22, 2018. The following members were in attendance: Don Fairbairn, Bill Bruinink, Darcy Fallon, Gayle Bogart, Ron Doane, Stanley Caveney and Mark Peacock. Also in attendance: K. Mattila, B. Carey and A. Vriends.

#### 1. Minutes of the Last Meeting

##### 1. D. Fallon - B. Bruinink

Moved that the minutes of the September 20, 2018 meeting be approved.

CARRIED

#### 2. Business for Approval

##### 2.1) Ska-Nah-Doht Fund

The total in the Ska-Nah-Doht Fund is \$12579.18.

##### 2. G. Bogart - S. Caveney

Moved that the committee receive the report for information.

CARRIED

##### 2.2) Annual Policy Review

The Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport has not yet indicated what will be tested in the 2019-20 application. The subcommittee will research and make recommendations on the existing policies and if necessary write a new policy or plan.

##### 3. R. Doane - D. Fallon

Moved that the committee receive the report for information.

CARRIED

#### 3. Business for Information

##### 3.1) New Job Posting Update

Over 100 applications have been received for the Community Educator position. Staff will be conducting interviews next week.

### 3.2) Education Programs

Bookings have been steady this fall. Teachers are happy with the choices of programs combining both First Nations Studies with Environmental issues. We are currently reviewing all existing programs as a transition to the next school year (2019-20). We are hoping to offer fewer but more precise choices in our curriculum-based programming which will be adaptable to all ages and grades.

### 3.3) Community Museum Operation Grant (CMOG) 2018/2019

On October 16, 2018 we received confirmation on the success of our 2018-19 CMOG application. The amount is \$22,992 which includes museum pay equity funding in the amount of \$240.

### 3.4) Ska-Nah-Doht Recognition Program

There are now 4 ash benches located at the Recognition sitting area. A sign will be installed in the new year.

### 3.5) Nominations for Ontario Volunteer Awards Program

#### 4. S. Caveney - G. Bogart

Moved that the following names be submitted for the 2019 Awards - Don Fairbairn (40 year), Darcy Fallon (5 year), Catherine Simmons (20 year), Mala Murty (10 year) and Doug Nixon (5 year).

CARRIED

### 3.6) Longwoods Feasibility Study Update

Sheila Simpson has been hired as project manager. A power point presentation was viewed which outlined the steps which will be taken to complete the study.

### 3.7) Upcoming 2018 Events

Season's Greetings - Sunday, November 25 - noon – 4 p.m

#### 5. B. Bruinink - R. Doane

Moved that the committee receive 3.1 - 3.4 and 3.6, 3.7 for information.

CARRIED

## 4. Other Business

### 4.1) Virtual Tour Project - Oneida Nation

Ray John Jr., an elder from Oneida and employee of the London District Catholic School Board (LDCSB) is looking to organize a group to complete a virtual tour of their history. The working group would consist of members from Standing Stone School, LDCSB and the community. Staff has offered to host the meetings at Longwoods.



#### 4.2) LTVCA Volunteer Heroes Award 2019

Up to four people can receive this award each year.

6. S. Caveney - R. Doane

Moved that an application be submitted nominating Ron Watts - posthumously, for this award.

CARRIED

#### 4.3) LTVCA Preliminary Budget

Preliminary budget has not changed since it was reviewed at the September meeting. The Provincial Government is not announcing grants at this time; the impact on the budget is unknown.

7. G. Bogart - D. Fallon

Moved that the committee receive 4.1 and 4.3 for information.

CARRIED

#### 5. 2019 Meeting Dates

The LTVCA AGM is being held on February 21, 2019. The next committee meeting will be after this date.

S. Caveney wished the Committee well - after 13 years as a LTVCA Director, this is his last meeting of the Ska-Nah-Doht Advisory Committee.

G. Bogart stated that she wishes to stay on the Ska-Nah-Doht Advisory Committee as a Community Member, now that she will no longer be an LTVCA Director.

#### 6. Adjournment

8. D. Fallon

Moved that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED



Don Fairbairn  
Chair

## 9.9) Wheatley Two Creeks Association Minutes – April 4, 2019 & May 2, 2019

### WHEATLEY TWO CREEKS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of regular meeting held on **April 4th 2019** at the Wheatley Legion

**Attendance:** Mark Peacock, Rick & Forest Taves, Bruce & Marj Jackson, Gerry Soulliere, Mike Diesbourg, Lorna Bell, Ron Haley, Joe & Ginette Pinsonneault, Lee & Linda Pearce, Pauline Sample, Roger Dundas, Brian Warkentine, Steve Logan.

**Minutes:** With the amendment that the Comber Scouts and not the Tilbury Scouts will supply the hotdogs at the concerts the minutes were accepted as printed. Moved by Phil, sec. by Lorna.(Carried)s

**Agenda:** Moved by Linda sec. by Joe agenda be accepted as outlined ( Carried )

**Memorial Gardens :** The L.T.V.C.A. will supply us with 4 Sugar Maples and 1 Tulip tree, they will be delivered to us as replacements for some trees in the Gardens. We will be billed for them.

**Prop. & Equip.:** Kevin Getty will try to smooth out the area in front of the hill with a roller. Joe will change the lock on the main shed and distribute keys to the appropriate people, it was felt that too many people now have access to it. The L.T.V.C.A. will replace the signs on the small pavilion as well as supplying a new digital map of the trails. We will repair the North bridge when conditions permit. We will need 2 plastic poles as supports for the West end of bridge. The L.T.V.C.A. will cut down some of the trees in the pine groves in order to have a healthier forest. They will leave the trees in the groves to serve as animal habitat. Rick will ask Kevin Getty to separate the cost of cutting the grass in each area. We will look into how much a surveillance system will cost. We will contact Randall about plans for building picnic tables for the disabled. I will get prices on 2 flags for the flag poles. The Bike Club wanted our approval to keep their trails clear and also to build small obstacles on their trails. It was agreed that they should fill out a liability form for each person doing work on the trails. They will also be considered a sub-committee and ex-officio of our group. They will also repair the bridge near the Hike Metal bridge. Linda moved , Roger sec.

**Concerts:** All concerts have been booked - warmup acts will be paid an honorarium.

**Financial Report:** The Account Balance as of Feb. 28 2019 was \$ 34,346.76. The Account Balance as of March 31 2019 was \$36,604.52. Moved by Joe, sec. by Phil.

**Correspondence:** None

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Adjournment:** Roger motioned for adjournment at 8:00pm

Phil Humphries, secretary.

## WHEATLEY TWO CREEKS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of regular meeting held on **May 2nd 2019** at the Wheatley Legion

**Attendance:** Rick & Forest Taves, Bruce & Marj Jackson, Lorna Bell, Mike Diesbourg, Gerry Soulliere, Ron Haley, Mark Peacock, Ginette & Joe Pinsonneault, Roger Dundas, Lee & Linda Pearce

**Minutes:** Moved by Phil, sec. by Rick the minutes be accepted as read ( Carried )

**Agenda:** Moved by Roger, sec. by Mike the agenda be accepted as read ( Carried )

**Memorial Groves:** Gerry has planted the 5 trees we received from the L.T.V.C.A. Joe will contact Derek Parry to see if he will conduct the Sept. 15 service in the Groves. The updated list of approved trees to be planted will be listed online.

**Prop. & Equip. :** Adam Stein will help us install the new roof on the stage when weather permits. Joe changed the lock on the South shed and will distribute the keys to the members who need them. A 1.5" rope supplied from Johnston Net & Twine will be installed on the posts down the hill. Joe will stop in Tilbury to see about acquiring 2 plastic poles for the North bridge. Rick suggested a plan for a 25' x 40' Pavillion near Larry's garden, Mark said that he could get some plans for it. Bruce suggested that fixing the North bridge should be done first which was agreed on. The L.T.V.C.A. has cut down 16 trees each in some of the pine groves. The L.T.V.C.A. has installed the new Two Creeks sign beside the road on the south end of the park, the North sign needs to be relocated , then installed. Mark said that the L.T.V.C.A. will donate a wheelchair accessible picnic table to us , they will deliver it. The Walk CK group will be walking in our park May 18 at 10:30 am, anyone interested can join in. The regular maintenance on the tractor needs to be done and the old lawnmower is gone. Rick motioned and Lee sec. to allow the L.T.V.C.A. to pick up the split rails behind the stage. Joe Motioned and Mike sec. to charge \$50.00 to rent the sm. Pavillion.

**Concerts:** There will be no ice cream supplied this year. Kaylie will be the warmup act before our first concert this year. The flyers have been printed. SOCAN has given their approval for this year's concerts.

**Financial Reports:** The Account Balance as of March 31 2019 was \$36,604.52. The Account Balance as of April 30 2019 was \$38,695.41. Moved by Rick, sec. by Lorna.

**Correspondence:** None

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** The new flags will be installed.

**Adjournment :** Rick motioned for adjournment at 7:50pm.

Phil Humphries, Secretary.

## 9.10) CAO's Report

Date: June 27, 2019

Memo to: LTVCA Board of Directors

Subject: C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer's Report

From: Mark Peacock, P. Eng., C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer

### Modernizing Conservation Authorities – Bill 108

As you are aware, LTVCA staff have been reviewing and providing comments on Bill 108, More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019 and its associated EBR postings. This Act makes significant changes to the Conservation Authorities Act and how the LTVCA can levy its municipalities. At the Executive Committee meeting of May 24, the Executive Committee fully endorsed LTVCA staff comments, which attempted to limit some of the impacts that we felt might happen should the act move forward.

Conservation Ontario has been also commenting on ERO submissions and had multiple meetings with ministry staff. Last Friday Conservation Ontario also had the opportunity to present to the Standing Committee on Justice Policy regarding Bill 108. During these meetings and presentations CO was asking for the inclusion of “conserving natural resources” (aka watershed management) as a mandatory program that would recognize the important role that conservation authorities play in protecting the function and resilience of natural resources at the watershed level. This was a position that LTVCA also took.

On June 7<sup>th</sup> the Province passed Bill 108, the More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019.

[https://www.ola.org/sites/default/files/node-files/bill/document/pdf/2019/2019-06/b108ra\\_e.pdf](https://www.ola.org/sites/default/files/node-files/bill/document/pdf/2019/2019-06/b108ra_e.pdf)

The Legislative Amendments do the following:

- Defines the provincially required core mandatory programs and services to be offered by all CAs regarding 1. natural hazard protection and management, 2. conservation and management of CA lands, 3. source water protection, and 4. Programs and services prescribed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council (newly added to act – see below)
- Changes in how CAs levy municipalities for mandatory and non-mandatory programs and services– non-mandatory programs can only be levied to a municipality if a MOU has been signed by the municipality to allow this to happen
- Updates the CAA to conform with modern transparency standards
- Provides a transitional period for CAs to sign long term MOUs with municipalities to define levy for provincially non-mandatory programs and services
- Enables the minister to appoint auditors to review CAs
- Clarifies that the duty of CA board members is to act in the best interest of the CA, similar to not-for-profit organizations

There was a partial win in that the Province included a new category of mandatory programs and services that the Lieutenant Governor in Council (LGIC) could prescribe within one year of the other mandatory programs and services being enacted. This new category within the legislation contains no limitation regarding what the programs and services that could be included. This provision allows the Government to add additional mandatory programs and services that CAs could levy municipalities to provide. LTVCA staff see this as a possible way to include many of the programs we offer that are not already included in the mandatory program section of the act.

The specific wording of Mandatory programs and services section of Act:

21.1 (1) An authority shall provide the following programs or services within its area of jurisdiction: 1. A program or service that meets any of the following descriptions and that has been prescribed by the regulations:

- i. Programs and services related to the risk of natural hazards.
- ii. Programs and services related to the conservation and management of lands owned or controlled by the authority, including any interests in land registered on title.
- iii. Programs and services related to the authority's duties, functions and responsibilities as a source protection authority under the Clean Water Act, 2006. iv. Programs and services related to the authority's duties, functions and responsibilities under an Act prescribed by the regulations.

2. A program or service, other than a program or service described in paragraph 1, that has been prescribed by the regulations on or before the first anniversary of the day prescribed under clause 40 (3) (h).

I will be at a Conservation Ontario Council meeting on June 24th to get more information on these changes.

**Recommendation:** That the C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurers Report be received for information.

*Respectfully Submitted*

Mark Peacock, P. Eng.

C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer

**Recommendation:** That the above reports be received for information.

# 10. Correspondence

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## 10.1) Conservation Ontario Comments on “Bill 108 – Schedule 12 – the proposed More Homes, More Choice Act: Amendments to the Planning Act”



May 30, 2019

Planning Act Review  
Provincial Planning Policy Branch  
777 Bay Street, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON M5G 2E5

Re: Conservation Ontario’s Comments on “Bill 108 – (Schedule 12) – the proposed More Homes, More Choice Act: Amendments to the Planning Act” (ERO# 019-0016)

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on Schedule 12 of “Bill 108 – the proposed More Homes, More Choice Act”. Conservation Ontario is the network of Ontario’s 36 conservation authorities (CAs). These comments are not intended to limit consideration of comments shared individually by CAs through the Bill 108 consultation process.

Conservation authorities are involved in the land use planning in the following ways: as a regulator under Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*; as a public body under the *Planning Act* and *Environmental Assessment Act*; as source protection authorities under the *Clean Water Act* supporting policy implementation; as resource management agencies operating on a local watershed basis; as a body with delegated authority in plan review to represent the provincial interest for natural hazards; and as the province’s second largest landowners who may become involved in the planning and development process, either as an adjacent landowner or a proponent. In these roles, CAs endeavour to provide the best guidance to their municipal partners regarding how to balance multiple provincial and watershed priorities in a timely and cost-effective manner.

Conservation Ontario offers the following comments on some of the main aspects of the proposal below.

### Streamlining Development Approvals Processes and Facilitate Faster Decisions

Schedule 12 of Bill 108 proposes to amend the *Planning Act* to streamline development approvals processes and facilitate faster decisions by reducing decision timelines for municipalities for official plans and amendments, zoning by-laws and amendments and for plans of subdivision. It is noted that there does not appear to be a corresponding amendment to assist municipalities to achieve these faster decision timelines. To achieve shorter decision timelines, a multifaceted approach is needed to address some of the current challenges within the planning and development approval system. While it is recognized within the “More homes, more choice: Ontario’s housing supply action plan” document that additional steps will need to be taken to address housing supply and speed up approvals, a further review of internal process, coupled with targeted Provincial investment and guidance would likely do more to expedite decision-making and to achieve the intended results.

Conservation Ontario recently hosted a multi-stakeholder Process Flow Review Workshop, which focused on the plan of subdivision process. During this workshop, many best practices were identified, including:

- **Greater “investment” in the pre-consultation process**

In general, more effort expended upfront in the planning process leads to more certainty, opportunities for innovation, and timely planning approvals. Some best practices include:

- Integrated pre-consultation with the Planning Approval Authority
- Having a complete record of comments and requirements from all approval agencies produced shortly thereafter
- Allowing other approval agencies, including CAs, to prescreen technical studies prior to a municipality deeming an application complete
- For complex projects, the participants should identify major project milestones with projected timelines, as well as commit to ongoing discussions throughout the process
- Consideration for the use of design charrettes

- **Improving quality of submissions**

Many planning applications require technical studies to demonstrate how the proposed development can proceed in accordance with the regulations, policies, and regulatory requirements of the review agencies. Multiple or poor quality submissions increase the amount of staff time needed to review, prepare comments and attend meetings to sort out problems associated with applications. Good quality submissions, where agency requirements have been met, result in shorter review times, more timely approvals, and cost reductions in the short and long term for all stakeholders. Some best practices include:

- Updating technical checklists within a municipality’s Official Plan
- The establishment of clear submission guidelines
- Having professional attest that an application is complete as part of the technical submission covering letter
- Participation of the applicant and the technical experts in pre-consultation and subsequent meetings

- **Providing better access to decision support tools**

Clear Provincial, municipal and conservation authority policies and guidelines helps to avoid ambiguity, conflict and unnecessary delay or duplication in the process. CAs, municipalities, the Province and landowners would all benefit from having access to better data and mapping. The provision of high quality data and mapping is critical for agencies to undertake efficient reviews and support timely municipal decision-making. Some best practices include:

- Updating Provincial technical guidelines, which provide guidance for the administration and implementation of Provincial policies, plans or regulations
- Provision of online screening maps to identify natural hazards, such as floodplains
- Providing public access to agency plan review policies, procedures and guidelines

Conservation Ontario is concerned that unless proposed changes to timelines are made in conjunction with efforts to streamline the planning process, that it is unlikely that the proposed legislated change



will achieve its intended effect. Reducing the timeframes without providing adequate support to the Planning Approval Authorities and technical review agencies will more likely result in more applications being appealed to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT) for non-decision. There is already a significant backlog of cases at the LPAT; adding additional cases will significantly delay development approvals.

#### **Support a Range and Mix of Housing Options and Boost Housing Supply**

Bill 108 includes a proposal to require municipalities to authorize an additional residential unit in both the primary dwelling and an ancillary building or structure. For a single family dwelling, this would result in an additional two residential units on each property. Conservation Ontario recommends an amendment to this portion of the Bill to exclude areas subject to natural hazards (as described in S. 3.1 of the Provincial Policy Statement) from allowing additional residential units. These areas pose a risk to life and property and allowing additional residential units in these areas would put more people and property at risk. The proposed legislation should be amended to specify that additional residential units are supported only in areas that are not subject to natural hazards and that have safe access.

The Province is urged to make this change within the Bill to protect people and property from natural hazards. This is particularly pertinent as some areas within the Province are currently moving towards disaster recovery and post-flooding redevelopment.

#### **Make Charges for Community Benefits More Predictable**

The Province is proposing to make charges for community benefits more predictable by establishing a new authority that would enable municipalities to collect funds for community benefit purposes. In developing the regulations that support this change the Province should consider the multiple benefits that parkland provides, including green infrastructure which helps to manage natural hazards on the landscape and contributes to the protection of our water resource systems.

#### **Return to de novo Hearings at the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal**

The Province is proposing to allow the LPAT to make decisions based on a return to de novo hearings in all cases. As noted above, the proposed decrease in decision-making timeframes will likely result in an increase in the number of appeals of planning applications to the LPAT. This can have the effect of producing an adversarial process and may serve as a disincentive to fully participate in the pre-consultation process. Therefore, returning to de novo hearings has the potential to extend approval timeframes.

It is important to ensure that the updated Local Planning Appeal Tribunal process continues to place a high emphasis on: good planning, consistency with provincial direction, and meeting community/municipal planning vision as identified in Upper and Lower tier Official Plans. The LPAT should retain its focus on testing for consistency with provincial policy statements, particularly as it relates to natural hazards.

Conservation authorities are solution-oriented agencies, who represent the provincial interest in protecting public health and safety and work closely with their municipal partners to ensure development proposals uphold these interests. CAs continue to be committed to streamlining planning processes and to providing the best guidance to their municipal partners in a timely and cost-effective manner. Conservation authorities are prepared to assist the Province with identifying those streamlining opportunities as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this proposal, should you have any questions about this letter, please feel free to contact me at extension 226.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leslie Rich". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Leslie" and last name "Rich" clearly distinguishable.

Leslie Rich, RPP  
Policy and Planning Liaison

c.c. all CA CAOs/GMs

Conservation Ontario  
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Tel: 905.895.0716 Email: [info@conservationontario.ca](mailto:info@conservationontario.ca)  
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## 10.2) Conservation Ontario's comments on: Modernizing Ontario's environmental assessment program – Environmental Assessment Act (ERO#013-5102), Discussion paper: Modernizing Ontario's environmental assessment program (ERO#013-5101), and Schedule 6 of Bill 108, More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019



May 28, 2019

Sharifa Wyndham-Nguyen  
Client Services and Permissions Branch  
135 St. Clair Avenue West, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON  
M4V 1P5

Re: Conservation Ontario's comments on: Modernizing Ontario's environmental assessment program – *Environmental Assessment Act* (ERO#013-5102), Discussion paper: Modernizing Ontario's environmental assessment program (ERO#013-5101), and Schedule 6 of Bill 108, *More Homes, More Choice Act*, 2019

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on *Modernizing Ontario's environmental assessment program – Environmental Assessment Act*, as well as the *Discussion Paper: Modernizing Ontario's environmental assessment program*. Conservation Ontario is the network of Ontario's 36 conservation authorities (CAs). These comments are not intended to limit consideration of comments shared individually by CAs through the *Environmental Assessment Act* review and consultation process.

Conservation authorities bring an important perspective to this review; as proponents of Class Environmental Assessments (Class EAs) and as members of the provincial Government Review Team (GRT) which provides feedback on Terms of References and environmental assessments in Ontario. As a major landowner and resource management agency in the most densely populated areas in Ontario (90% of Ontario's residents live in a CA watershed), CAs are the proponent or co-proponent of a number of environmental assessments (EA), both Individual EAs and through the provincial Class EA process. Conservation Ontario has managed the *Class Environmental Assessment for Remedial Flood and Erosion Control Projects* (Class EA) since 1993. The Class EA establishes a planning and approval process for a variety of remedial flood and erosion control projects that may be carried out by CAs. The Class EA sets out procedures and environmental planning principles for CAs to follow to plan, design, evaluate, implement and monitor remedial flood and erosion control projects so that environmental effects are considered as required through the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*.

### Modernizing Ontario's environmental assessment program – *Environmental Assessment Act* (ERO# 013-5102)

This proposal contains three components, including: modernizing the EA program, ensuring timeliness, and clarifying the Minister's authority. Conservation Ontario is supportive of the third component, namely, clarifying the Minister's authority to reconsider an approval of a project and ask for additional information on an individual EA, and therefore has not provided further comments on this subject. Comments on the remaining two components can be found below.

#### *I. Modernizing the environmental assessment program to focus on higher-risk projects*

This posting identifies immediate actions the Ministry is proposing to undertake to ensure the EA program focusses on projects with the greatest potential for environmental impacts by exempting very low-risk activities. Conservation Ontario is supportive of the current proposed legislative amendments, particularly with regard to the provisions which would allow other Class EA proponents to identify undertakings within the class to which the Act would not apply, including as a result of screening criteria specified within the Class EA parent document.

The Conservation Ontario Class Environmental Assessment for Remedial Flood and Erosion Control Projects (herein, "the Class EA") outlines a planning and design process for undertakings applicable to the Class EA parent document. The Class EA utilizes screening criteria to assist the proponent CA with selection of the preferred alternative method(s) for an undertaking, as well as the detailed environmental analysis of the preferred alternative which results in the selection of the appropriate documentation for the undertaking. The proposed amendments to the EAA would allow Conservation Ontario to work with the Ministry and Ontario's 36 conservation authorities to identify activities with a low potential risk for net environmental impacts to be exempt from the requirements of the Act. The current undertakings covered by this Class EA are routine in nature and have generally known and manageable environmental impacts. Conservation Ontario is committed to working with the Province to identify opportunities through future streamlining amendments to our parent Class EA document to better align projects with the appropriate level of assessment.

Lastly, although some activities may become exempt from the requirements of the EAA, it is important that the proponent be aware of their obligations under the *Clean Water Act* source protection plans for all applicable undertakings. The *Clean Water Act* allows for the identification of activities that could pose a risk to drinking water sources, which are assigned a risk level based on scientific methodologies under the Act. For example, in areas of a certain percentage of impervious surface, activities such as: the storage of snow, road salt application and road salt storage may be assessed as "significant level risks" to the local drinking water source. In such cases, mandatory policies apply to manage the risks. It is recommended that Class EA proponents utilize and incorporate the risk assessment under the *Clean Water Act* when identifying activities for non-application of the EAA.

*II. Ensure timeliness and certainty for the review of requests to the Minister asking for a higher level of assessment on a project (i.e. "bump-up")*

Conservation Ontario is supportive of the proposal to ensure timeliness and certainty for the review of requests to the Minister asking for a higher level of assessment on a project. In the past, Conservation Ontario has submitted comments to the Ministry encouraging that there be more guidance on the process, to prevent Part II Order requests that are submitted solely for the purposes of delaying a project, as well as those submitted without the requester attempting to first resolve its concerns with the project through consulting directly with the proponent.

Conservation Ontario commends the Province for clearly defining which matters bump-ups can be requested on, including matters related to Aboriginal or treaty rights of the Aboriginal peoples of Canada or a prescribed matter of provincial importance (to be defined further in regulation). When developing the regulation which identifies matters of provincial importance, Conservation Ontario recommends the Province clearly delineate and define specific matters of provincial interest in order to provide clarity to the public with regard to filing Part II Order Requests with the Minister. Conservation Ontario recommends that matters related to natural hazards protection and management and drinking water source protection are included in the proposed regulation.



It is Conservation Ontario's understanding that the prescribed matters of provincial importance, as well as the proposed limits on when the Minister must make decisions on requests and deadlines for Part II Order Requests, will be outlined in regulation which will be posted to the Environmental Registry for public review and comment. Conservation Ontario welcomes the opportunity to continue to engage with the Province on these matters when the opportunity becomes available.

The posting further proposes amendments to the *Act* such that Ontarians are given priority over other interests by limited bump-up requests to only those that live in Ontario. Conservation Ontario notes that many projects have the potential for transboundary environmental impacts (e.g. upstream or downstream impacts associated with in-water works). In such cases, the interests of those residing outside of Ontario should be accommodated and considered. An amendment to Schedule 6 of Bill 108 is recommended to address those cases.

With regard to the proposed amendments for timelines associated with Part II Order Requests, Conservation Ontario strongly supports the proposal to prescribe a deadline which would apply to the Minister's decision whether to issue an order to comply with Part II of the *Act* after a request has been received. Additional commentary on the proposed amendments found within Bill 108 are included below.

#### Schedule 6 - Bill 108, *More Homes, More Choice Act*, 2019

The following comments on Bill 108 are arranged around the two components found within the "Modernizing Ontario's environmental assessment program – *Environmental Assessment Act*" posting discussed above.

##### *I. Modernizing the environmental assessment program to focus on higher-risk projects*

The proposed legislative amendments as described in section 15.4 of the *Act* would allow the Minister or Director to "amend an approved class environmental assessment on the Minister's or Director's own initiative". This proposed addition to the *Act* does not identify a requirement or process for notification/consultation with proponents of class environmental assessments. Conservation Ontario recommends that prior to publication of a notice of the proposed amendment to the Environmental Registry, the Director or Minister notifies and consults with the applicable proponent(s) and identifies the rationale for the proposed amendments.

##### *I. Ensure timeliness and certainty for the review of requests to the Minister asking for a higher level of assessment on a project (i.e. "bump-up")*

The proposed amendments identified in Bill 108 state that the Minister would be required to provide written reasoning to the proponent of the undertaking and the person(s) who requested the order should the Minister not make a decision within the prescribed timeline. It is recommended that this be amended such that the Minister would be required to notify both parties prior to the deadline as prescribed. As written, the proposed legislation does not identify when in the review process the Minister would need to provide this notice to both parties, which would potentially create significant delays in notifying parties on the status of Part II Order Requests. Ensuring that both parties are notified prior to the prescribed deadline would increase transparency regarding government decision-making and would allow proponents to adjust project timelines accordingly to accommodate the extended



review period for the request. Currently, the Class Environmental Assessment for Flood and Erosion Control projects outlines that, upon receipt of all necessary and satisfactory information from the requester, the Ministry will review the information and prepare a recommendation to the Minister on whether to approve or deny the request within a minimum target of 45 days. It is recommended that the Province clearly define, in regulation, a deadline for the review and Minister's decision on Part II Order Requests and that the regulation identifies a clear process with defined timelines for extensions under exceptional circumstances.

Lastly, in addition to the proposed timelines prescribed in regulation, Conservation Ontario is supportive of the amendments in Bill 108 which would allow the LGIC to introduce a regulation which would prescribe deadlines for Part II Order Requests in order to provide transparency for proponents of class environmental assessments. It is recommended that the Province maintain the current approach outlined in the Class Environmental Assessment for Flood and Erosion Control projects, which states that a Part II Order Request must be received by the Ministry within the 30-day review period following a 'Notice of Filing', or 15-day period in the case of a 'Notice of Addendum'. Aligning the deadline for Part II Order Requests with the review timelines currently prescribed in the class environmental assessment parent documents is appreciated and provides clarity and certainty regarding these requests to proponents.

#### **Discussion paper: Modernizing Ontario's environmental assessment program**

The following section offers comments on the four areas of focus identified in the *Discussion Paper: Modernizing Ontario's Environmental Assessment Program* (ERO#013-5101).

#### **Ensure better alignment between the level of assessment and the level of environmental risk**

The discussion paper poses the question of what kind of projects should require an environmental assessment in Ontario, citing the different approaches taken across other Canadian jurisdictions, such as inclusion of private-sector undertakings and the use of a project list to clearly delineate which projects should be required to complete an EA based on size, type and location. Conservation Ontario recommends the applicability of the EAA be extended to any activity or undertaking where design alternatives exist and which has the potential to cause significant adverse environmental impacts. The applicability of the EAA to any activity or undertaking should include, but not be limited to impacts to matters of provincial interest as prescribed in a future regulation under the Act.

Further, the discussion paper outlines the potential move to a project list under the EAA which would be used to identify which projects are subject to an EA. Conservation Ontario has a number of concerns with this proposed approach. While Conservation Ontario agrees that the move to a project list would align Ontario's approach with other jurisdictions in Canada, including with the Federal approach, we recommend the Province retain the current approach of requiring all project types to be subject to the requirements of the EAA unless otherwise exempt. While the project list does pose some benefits for proponents such as ease of identification of projects and standard terminology/consistency across all project types, this approach may not adequately address case or site-specific environmental impacts associated with a particular undertaking. The project list approach would also need to be highly flexible and iterative, as a standardized list may not be able to adequately address all projects that have the potential for adverse environmental impacts particularly within a sector which is evolving. With the need for an iterative approach, a project list may create more confusion for proponents and members of the public regarding whether or not a project is subject to the EAA.

Through the approved parent Class EA documents, Ontario's current approach to EA allows for the level of assessment to be appropriately aligned with the level of risk, allowing for a more streamlined approach for designated projects. Introducing a project list has the potential to be duplicative of the designated undertakings currently covered under Ontario's approved Class EAs. Should the Province proceed with the project list approach, the EAA should be amended to allow for the Minister to have powers to designate additional projects to be subject to the requirements of the EAA, if it is in the opinion of the Minister that the project may cause adverse environmental impacts.

#### Eliminate duplication between environmental assessments and other planning and approvals processes

The discussion paper identifies that, since the inception of the EAA in Ontario, many other processes have been put in place that may duplicate requirements for projects subject to the Act. Conservation Ontario is supportive in principle of the proposal to look at streamlining opportunities where similar requirements exist in other legislation or perhaps, more importantly, when there are multiple approvals required for the same undertaking (see further comments in section below).

Further, many projects which take place in Ontario initiated under one class environmental assessment process have the potential to trigger multiple environmental assessments due to the nature of the work. These triggers can result in the need for multiple consultation processes to take place for the same project, usually involving the same group of interested individuals (for instance, when conservation authorities wish to convert construction access routes for erosion control projects to publicly accessible trails). It is recommended the Province explore creating clear guidance for project proponents as well as Class EA managers for when multiple EA requirements are triggered for a single undertaking.

#### Find efficiencies to shorten timelines from start to finish

The discussion paper outlines the potential need for the Province to coordinate a "one-window approach" for the EA program, citing the need to provide proponents with a platform which clarifies EA requirements and coordinates EAs with multiple planning and approvals processes. Conservation Ontario offers the following comments and suggestions related to the "one-window" approach for the EA program.

The EA process deals with conceptual design, whereas many of the subsequent permits and approvals which may be required for a project require detailed design. Due to this reason, it is not recommended that the EA process be used as a "one-window" approval. The EA process, however, is a powerful tool to streamline the approvals process. For example, all provincial approval agencies should use the EA process to identify when a provincial approval may be required for a project. This will require that the provincial approval agencies be involved in the upfront planning of the undertaking, rather than at the end, when the preferred alternative has already been selected. Through such an approach, the detailed technical information which is collected within the EA process could be catalogued in a central registry and used to support subsequent technical studies required for permitting and approvals processes, as well as future projects within the same geographic context. It is recommended that this central registry be used for provincial approval agencies to share comments and to review submissions. This will ensure coordination between the approval agencies, help to avoid conflicting requirements, allow similar work completed in one process to be used for other processes and allow applicants to initiate and streamline certain permit and approval applications during the EA process (where appropriate to do so). While more information is required on details of the proposed "one-window approach", it is recommended that the Province explore opportunities to collect information gathered throughout the EA process which can be accessed for subsequent permits/approvals for a project.



Additionally, the discussion paper identifies deficiencies in the current EA program with regard to proponent knowledge of Ministry requirements for documentation and consultation. These deficiencies can result in a need to pause the Ministry's review process to allow proponents time to provide missing information or additional data, as well as potential delays associated with significant concerns being identified at a later stage in the EA process, triggering the need for further information/studies. In order to avoid delays associated with these deficiencies, as a primary step, Conservation Ontario recommends the Province review and update the Codes of Practice for Ontario's EA program. The Codes of Practice are useful guides for proponents which outline the legislative requirements and Ministry expectations for various aspects of the EA program, including preparation of an EA, preparation of a Terms of Reference, and requirements for Class EA proponents. While the Codes of Practice are useful guides for proponents, the majority have not been updated in several years. It is recommended the Ministry review and update these guides as appropriate to reflect any changes to the EA program and that technical bulletins be released in between substantive updates to keep the documents current. In addition to the Codes of Practice, there are a number of areas of the EA program which could benefit from clearer guidance from the Ministry. For instance, particularly for proponents of an EA who are not agencies of the Crown, there is a strong need for guidance and increased clarity regarding First Nations consultation. While it is understood that the Crown may delegate the procedural aspects of consultation to proponents of non-Crown agencies such as conservation authorities, there is great uncertainty regarding expectations and a lack of guidance on the process which needs to be utilized for consultation. In order to modernize and clarify this process, it is recommended that the Ministry clearly outline expectations regarding procedurally delegated consultation activities to provide proponents and Indigenous communities with increased clarity and certainty regarding the Ministry's expectations.

#### Go digital by permitting online submissions

The discussion paper proposes the creation of an electronic registry to support the submission and review of EA documentation as a centralized, digital location for proponents and members of the public to access information related to ongoing EAs in Ontario. Conservation Ontario strongly supports the development of such a registry to enable effective data sharing and increase transparency broadly for EA activities. It is recommended that, in addition to relevant EA documents such as notices, reports, drawings and models, the registry include a spatial component whereby projects are geo-referenced so interested parties are able to view on-going projects within a specified geographic region. It is further recommended that the online registry be searchable and AODA compliant to improve access for all Ontarians. Lastly, the discussion paper mentions that the Ministry is currently implementing a "modern approach to other environmental approvals and permits through the creation of online registries and electronic submission processes". It is recommended that the proposed EA registry be nested within a broader online portal for environmental approvals and permits administered by the Ministry as per our comments above. As EAs may be required as part of other approval processes, such as *Planning Act* applications, it would be appropriate for the Province to administer a broad online portal which links on-going EA projects with other environmental approvals and permits.

While the use of an electronic registry may be useful for posting project information and notices, the registry should not fully replace the need for notification of EA project stages at the local level. Conservation Ontario appreciates a stronger focus towards digital notification and documentation for EA projects, however, it is recognized that physical distribution of project notices will still be required to ensure equal access for Ontarians without or with limited online access, particularly those in remote and rural areas. It is recommended that, in addition to the proposed registry, the Province identify opportunities for targeted physical distribution of notices and other EA documents as the public shifts from traditional forms of media (e.g. newspaper notices) to more modern platforms.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comments on *Modernizing Ontario's environmental assessment program – Environmental Assessment Act*, the *Discussion Paper: Modernizing Ontario's environmental assessment program*, as well as the proposed amendments to the *Environmental Assessment Act* set out in Schedule 6 of Bill 108, *More Homes, More Choice Act*, 2019. Should you have any questions about this letter please feel free to contact myself at extension 229.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicholas Fischer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nicholas Fischer  
Policy and Planning Officer

c.c. All CA CAOs/GMs

## 10.3) Canadian Cancer Society Mudmoiselle 2019 Event



Canadian Cancer Society  
Société canadienne du cancer

Chatham-Kent Unit

746 Richmond Street  
Units A + B

Chatham, Ontario

N7M 5J5

Telephone: (519) 352-3960

Facsimile: (519) 352-0321

May 22, 2019

Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority  
100 Thames St  
Chatham, ON  
N7L 2Y8

*"Supporting the Canadian Cancer Society makes your money go so far. It's going towards world-class research that is making a difference for people with cancer and their families - people like my daughter Amanda and our family."*

Joanne, mother of Amanda, childhood cancer survivor

I want to personally thank you for fighting back against cancer by supporting Mudmoiselle Chatham-Kent on April 27, 2019. Thanks to your commitment, Mudmoiselle Chatham-Kent raised over \$14,500.

Event sponsors like Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority help us to ensure that funds raised through Mudmoiselle Chatham-Kent are being put towards what matters most: saving lives.

Amanda McQuinn was just 3 years old when a CT scan found a tumour the size of a golf ball in her brain. Diagnosed as medulloblastoma, a type of childhood brain cancer, Amanda was quickly admitted to hospital and put under the care of Society-funded researcher and pediatric neurosurgeon Dr Michael Taylor.

*"We were so fortunate to have a doctor who sees patients and does research. Dr Taylor is making major breakthroughs in childhood cancer research, with the Canadian Cancer Society's support. That research is saving kids like Amanda."* says mom Joanne.

A successful surgery removed Amanda's tumour, and Amanda is now a healthy 15-year old. But life-saving research like Dr Taylor's is not possible without committed organizations such as yours.

Thank you again for your commitment to this special event. If you have any questions or would like more information on our work and how you can help, please contact us at 519-352-3960.

With sincere thanks,

Cindy Virall  
Senior Manager, Community Offices  
Canadian Cancer Society

**RECEIVED**  
MAY 27 2019  
LOWER THAMES VALLEY  
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



# Climate change, now Doug Ford cuts, raise flood fears

ELLWOOD SHREVE, CHATHAM DAILY NEWS

Updated: May 19, 2019



Members of the Chatham-Kent fire service dive team help residents whose homes were flooded in Chatham. Photograph taken on Feb. 28, 2019. (Louis Pin/Postmedia News)

As the Thames River surged over its banks, spilling across fields and streets, flood forecasters knew the fallout could have been much worse.

Even with the water peaking at its highest level in a decade, more than 17 feet above normal, forcing the evacuation of a Southwestern Ontario village, the February 2018 flood could have been devastating without the controls in place.

For one, the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) had closed its massive Fanshawe Dam in London, holding back millions of cubic metres of water that would have swept away everything along the river that runs down the region's spine.

If that water hadn't been released gradually, says Mike Peacock, head of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority, the fallout would have matched the infamous 1937 flood that "just wiped out everything," leaving a large part of London under water and causing other havoc downstream.

Fending off disaster is Job 1 for conservation authorities, the 36 agencies provincewide that oversee an elaborate network of dams, dikes, spillways and other defences — many of which the public rarely sees. The agencies are critical to Southwestern Ontario, one of the soggiest areas of the province, bordered as it is by Great Lakes the size of small seas and drained by long river systems.

There have also been problems along Lake Erie's wind- and wave-whipped shoreline so bad that one official recently speculated someone will eventually die if people living in one persistent flood zone aren't moved.

Managing all that water, and planning ahead to help keep people and property out of harm's way, has never been easy. Even with impressive defences, Southwestern Ontario has battled serious flooding in recent years, causing grief in cities ranging from Windsor to Chatham and Brantford.

But the outlook isn't good.

With climate change expected to deliver more frequent and intense storms, the region's water defences may no longer be up to the job already.

Now, on top of that, Ontario's cost-cutting Progressive Conservative government is chopping half the flood-management funding that conservation authorities get — money that might otherwise help to shore up future defences.

The amounts are not huge, but replacing them means robbing Peter to protect Paul — taking money from other things the authorities do — or asking member municipalities for more.

One thing is clear: At a time when it's needed most, Queen's Park is siphoning off help, not increasing it.

The province now provides \$5 million in matching funds each year for maintenance and upgrades to Ontario's flood-control infrastructure, says Ian Wilcox, general manager of the UTRCA, the region's largest conservation authority.

With all Ontario conservation authorities vying for a share of that cash, it means there's never enough. The UTRCA's 20-year forecast for the upkeep of its flood-control infrastructure, for example, is a hefty \$80 million, Wilcox said.

Ontario's 50 per cent cut to the \$7.4 million it had provided for flood-control programs — one of many spending cuts in the Tories' first budget in April — turned out to be as painful as it was badly timed. At almost the same time, the province was dealing with terrible spring flooding, especially in the Ottawa area.

Infrastructure Minister Monte McNaughton, one of Premier Doug Ford's regional ministers for Southwestern Ontario, represents a riding with flood-prone areas. But he insists the Tories had no choice: The former Liberal government left a "significant financial hole" and a \$15-billion budget shortfall.



**Jeff Cantelon, a dam maintenance worker for the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) walks through an inspection tunnel in Fanshawe Dam 30 metres below the road surface. These tunnels allow inspection of the dam constructed in 1950-52 at a cost of \$5 million (structure and land) Mike Hensen/The London Free Press/Postmedia Network**

But even before the latest cuts, the agencies on the front line of flood management had been forced to live with less from the province.

The province once covered half the budgets for Ontario's flood-management programs until the Mike Harris government cut that by about 80 per cent in the 1990s, Wilcox said.

The money hasn't increased since, even though flooding is now the most costly natural disaster in terms of insurance claims in the country.

"So we've been living on that entirely inadequate level of funding for the past 23 years," Wilcox said.

Conservation authorities turned to federal and municipal government programs to update their flood modelling — critical information for the future from computer software that maps out the trouble spots.

"We live and see the changes in weather patterns from the '80s until now — the higher frequency of flood events, the higher intensity," Wilcox said. "It's no longer just flooding in the spring with snow melt. It's any time of year."

Last year's flooding in Chatham-Kent caused by heavy rains, soaring temperatures and a quick midwinter snowmelt pushed the area's system of protective dikes to its limit, prompting the need for more mapping there.

The recent funding cuts will make that harder to accomplish in the short term. Longer-term, Peacock said, the province intends the cuts to force municipalities in the drainage areas the authorities cover to shoulder more of the burden of managing hazards.

"What they're essentially doing is, through this, they'll be forcing the municipalities to pick up (the province's) part of the natural hazards program," he said.

McNaughton insists every government agency needs to be "evaluated" and "delivering on their core mandates" while living "within their means."

Wilcox sees the province sending two messages.

“First, the flood program is our core business and we need to focus on that, and secondly, the province isn’t paying for it,” he said.” The only alternative is the municipalities are going to be asked to shoulder that burden.”

Sarnia Mayor Mike Bradley, no stranger to provincial cuts over his 31 years in office, says he isn’t sure municipalities can bear that extra load.

“There’s no question it’s downloading,” he said, adding cash-strapped cities and townships can’t afford to pay the lion’s share of flood protection. “At some point, this dam is going to burst where we, simply as municipalities, are going to have to say, ‘Sorry, we just can’t do this.’ ”

In the meantime, those municipalities keep facing trouble: Cambridge and Brantford suffered extensive flooding last year when great chunks of ice blocked the Grand River; Pelee Island, which was denied \$10 million in federal funding to repair its stone breakwalls, is in danger of being washed away; states of emergency were declared in recent weeks across eastern Ontario after heavy rains lashed that region; repeatedly this spring, strong winds have pushed huge waves across Erie’s regional shoreline, flooding roads, homes and fields.

While the province has announced a task force to work immediately on “flood mitigation,” critics say it’s no lifeline. No money was announced and there are few details beyond a series of consultations in the Muskoka region, Pembroke and Ottawa.

“Any review of flood management in Ontario should begin with undoing the damage done by the (Doug) Ford Conservatives,” says MPP Ian Arthur, the NDP’s environment critic at Queen’s Park.

Amid mounting financial costs and the growing frequency of flooding, the Insurance Bureau of Canada, an industry umbrella group, has called on governments at all levels to upgrade flood protection.

Over 25 years to 2008, insured losses in Canada from severe weather averaged \$414 million a year, said bureau spokesperson Vanessa Barrasa. Since 2009, however, the average has skyrocketed to \$1.9 billion and “water damage is the key driver behind these growing costs,” she said.

Even when the water recedes, the trouble isn’t over. Disease and toxic mould can break out. And the question arises whether to rebuild in face of changing flooding patterns.

Which goes back to the work the cash-strapped conservation authorities do.

Climate change will only make the fallout worse in the region, one climate researcher warns.

“There is only going to be a new normal,” said Linda Mortsch of the University of Waterloo. “We can’t go back.”

Mortsch, part of a team working on a Lake Erie shoreline study, says Canada saw a 1.7 degree Celsius rise in temperature from 1948 to 2016, including an almost one-degree increase in Southwestern Ontario. And warmer temperatures mean the atmosphere can hold more water, she said. “That’s why they say there will be more extreme precipitation events,” she said.

If the protection money is not there for a stormier future, there are few options, Peacock said. Moving people away from swollen lakes and rivers is one, but even that comes with huge costs.

“You have to have the ability to compensate people,” he said. “The reality is our towns are here and we’ve got to deal with it.”

Peacock said he hopes the province can be convinced the only smart approach is to manage the entire watershed, including doing things like creating wetlands and planting trees and tall grass prairies to help soak up all that water and then slowly release it.

“We can’t build dams big enough to deal with this,”he said. “We cannot build dikes big enough to deal with this.”

[eshreve@postmedia.com](mailto:eshreve@postmedia.com)

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## BY THE NUMBERS

Funding cuts to area conservation authorities

<b>Ausable Bayfield:</b>	\$55,000
<b>Essex Region:</b>	\$100,000
<b>Grand River:</b>	\$449,688
<b>Grey Sauble:</b>	\$34,560
<b>Kettle Creek:</b>	\$61,769
<b>Long Point:</b>	\$35,229
<b>Lower Thames Valley:</b>	\$76,000
<b>Maitland Valley:</b>	\$36,424
<b>Saugeen:</b>	\$76,000
<b>St. Clair Region:</b>	\$160,037
<b>Upper Thames River:</b>	\$170,000

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## DID YOU KNOW?

Floods are Canada’s most costly natural disasters in property damage, says Public Safety Canada.

Flood-hit in recent years: Windsor, Leamington, Kingsville, Point Pelee, Lighthouse Cove, Chatham, Wallaceburg, Wheatley, Thamesville, Sarnia, Brantford and Cambridge.

The Grand River Conservation Authority, created in 1932 in the Brantford area, is Canada’s oldest water-management agency.

The W. Darcy McKeough Floodway, a grass-lined, seven-kilometre flood-diversion channel managed by the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority, was built south of Sarnia in 1984 to reduce the threat of flooding in Wallaceburg.

The Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority manages a battery of flood defences, including a 3.3-kilometre diversion channel and a backwater control and pumping station that protects south Chatham from flooding.



## 10.5) Government of Ontario Commits to Increasing Province Flood Resilience

### Government of Ontario Commits to Increasing Province Flood Resilience

**Water Canada**

Monday, May 20, 2019

By Simran Chattha

In the Legislature on May 13, 2019, Premier Doug Ford highlighted the Ontario government's commitment to increasing the province's resilience to flooding.

"I want to assure the people of Ontario that we are taking action to better plan for and reduce the impacts of flooding," said Premier Doug Ford. "We will start by creating an internal task force that will hear directly from people in flood zones about how we can all work together to protect their property and keep them safe."

The internal task force will consult with municipal, Indigenous, and industry leaders to discuss how to better prepare for floods and respond to them when they happen. Engagement sessions will be held in the Muskoka region on May 17, in Pembroke on May 23, and in Ottawa on May 24.

"Our number one priority is the safety of the public and the protection of communities and private property," said John Yakabuski, minister of natural resources and forestry. "After seeing first-hand the impacts of flooding in communities across Ontario, we are taking immediate action to help."

"We want to help Ontarians protect what matters most to them, whether that's their home or local business, or local infrastructure like roads and bridges," said Steve Clark, minister of municipal affairs and housing. "Making our communities more resilient to the extreme spring flooding we've been experiencing across the province over the last few years is a priority."

"Spring flooding is becoming more and more common," said Solicitor General Sylvia Jones. "While Ontario has excellent emergency personnel and resources in place, the need to respond in multiple communities at the same time puts a significant strain on local, provincial, and federal responders, not to mention the residents, businesses, and communities affected."

A key commitment of the [Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan](#) is to undertake a provincial impact assessment to identify where and how climate change is likely to impact Ontario's communities. The results from this assessment will provide decision makers with the data and information needed to better plan for more frequent extreme weather events such as flooding.

## 10.6) Conservation Authorities: On the front lines reducing flood risk in Ontario

### Conservation Authorities: On the front lines reducing flood risk in Ontario

By Jo-Anne Rzadki, msc.

Business Development and Partnerships, Conservation Ontario\*

The nature of advice that would be given to prevent or mitigate a repeat of loss depends on the nature of the occurrence and that includes for riverine flood risk. Glenn McGillivray's article in the July/August 2018 issue of CatTales "What do you mean by 'flood'?" was very timely. He indicated that when homeowners and landowners get water on their lands, buildings or homes they call it a 'flood', regardless of the type of flooding that has occurred (pipe or municipal water main break, toilet, water heater, dishwasher or washing machine failure; seepage; sewer backup, riverine storm surge; tsunami).

As Insurers are now offering overland flood products for flooding (for the most part, originating from fresh water bodies of water such as lakes and rivers) they are strongly encouraged to understand the different causes of flooding. Insurers play an important role in guiding property owners to sources of information about the types of flooding they can experience and what they may be able to do to reduce their risk. Glenn provided some guidance on how insurers should approach the issue of providing flood mitigation advice to property owners and others.

In Ontario, Insurers should know that when it comes to riverine flood risk we have a flood management program, guidelines and standards that reduce risk to people and property and avoid costly disruptions to businesses, clean up and repair costs for residents and communities. In a 2016 report, the Parliamentary Budget Office noted this program in Ontario has reduced disaster



payouts due to riverine flooding significantly compared to other provinces in Canada.

Through their flood management programs, Ontario's 36 [Conservation Authorities](#) (CAs) are on the frontlines working with municipalities, and other levels of government to prevent and manage the impacts of riverine flooding to Ontario communities. Riverine flooding isn't limited to the rural countryside – it often directly impacts or exacerbates flooding that takes place in communities and cities.

Ninety-five percent of Ontario's population lives in a watershed managed by a Conservation Authority. In the original mandate in 1946, Conservation Authorities were given the responsibility to study the watershed and 'determine a scheme to conserve, restore or develop

natural resources of the watershed'. In 1954, eight years after the passing of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, Hurricane Hazel came along. As a result of the storm's destruction and loss of life, Conservation Authorities were given the mandate to 'control waters to prevent floods or pollution' and this has resulted in another critical role – to protect property and people through planning and regulations.

Today Conservation Authorities have a variety of responsibilities around flood management in Ontario. These include:

- Forecast flooding and issue warnings
- Monitor streamflow, rainfall and snow packs
- Floodplain mapping
- Manage and operate \$2.7 billion in flood infrastructure such as dams and dykes >

\* The core mandate of Conservation Authorities is to undertake watershed-based programs to protect people and property from flooding and other natural hazards, and to conserve natural resources for economic, social and environmental benefits.



- Provide planning support and advice to the province, municipalities and the federal government to minimize flood impacts
- Regulate development activities in floodplains
- Contribute to municipal emergency planning and preparedness activities as well as recovery activities
- Inform and educate the public about flooding

- Protect, restore and rehabilitate natural (vegetative) cover (eg. wetlands and woodlands) that contributes to reducing the impacts of flooding
- Stormwater management, low impact development

Collaborating with Conservation Authorities has enabled municipalities and other levels of government to rely on a cost effective and streamlined approach preventing hundreds of millions of dollars

in damages annually. They use an 'integrated' approach which combines prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. In addition to making people safer, it also makes good business sense because it's cheaper to prevent flooding than pay for it later.

### Conservation Authority Approach to Flood Management

PREVENTION	MITIGATION	PREPAREDNESS	RESPONSE	RECOVERY
Prevent the effects of flooding	Reduce Flooding	Develop capacity to respond	Take action during a flood	Deal with flood aftermath
ACTIVITIES				
<b>Planning and regulation to minimize vulnerabilities</b>	<b>Evaluate risks and implement mitigation programs</b>	<b>Develop plans for emergency preparedness</b>	<b>Implement emergency measures</b>	<b>Help administer relief/recovery programs</b>
Regulate floodplain land use Stormwater management Green infrastructure/Stewardship Watershed planning Public education Purchase floodplain land and structures vulnerable to flooding	\$2.7b in flood control structures (over 900 dams, dykes, channels and erosion control structures) Flood proofing Flood forecasting & warning systems	Flood contingency planning Partner training Public education	Monitor storms and stream flows Issue flood warnings	Assess overall damage Post audit of flood response
<div> <b>Conservation Authorities map floodplains</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Along inland rivers, lakes and streams</li> <li>• Great Lakes shorelines</li> </ul> </div>				



## General facts about Conservation Authorities and their front-line role in flood risk reduction and mitigation

Conservation Authorities' flood management programs provide a wide range of benefits. This includes addressing flooding issues through their climate change strategies and 'specific' climate change adaptation activities. CAs undertake technical studies and implement climate change mitigative or adaptive actions or substantially modifying current actions as a specific climate change response.

CAs provide jobs to environmental professionals and students and contribute to a green and prosperous Ontario. Our work keeps Ontarians safe. Our work provides recreational opportunities for Ontarians. And, our work makes Ontario a more climate change-resilient and sustainable province.

We encourage Insurance providers in Ontario to learn more about the role of Conservation Authorities and how they work with their municipal, provincial and federal government and other partners in helping people, property and businesses stay safe from the impacts of riverine and other types of flooding. Insurance providers can also direct their clients to learn from their local CA if their properties are in or near a floodplain, a regulated area and to learn about their riverine flood risk before they make changes to their property and buildings. This could potentially reduce avoidable costs down the road. Property owners can also learn about what CAs do to monitor conditions, forecast and warn people in their area during a flood event, how they involve municipalities and emergency management and media officials, how property owners can access information and notices and what property owners may specifically be able to do to minimize the impacts of riverine flooding.

### For more information contact:

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Business Development and Partnerships  
Conservation Ontario\*  
(905) 895-0716 ext. 224  
[jrzadki@conservationontario.ca](mailto:jrzadki@conservationontario.ca)



Mantle is offering training on the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) with multiple offerings in 2019 for both its introduction, half day course and advanced two day workshop.

### INTRODUCTION TO CLIMATE DISCLOSURE (1/2-day Workshop)

Understand the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) recommendations, stakeholder expectations and the international momentum behind TCFD. Explore what is needed to develop a TCFD compliant report and the advantages this brings to your company or organization.

Being offered in 2019 on the following dates at 9am:  
May 21 | May 28 | June 18 | Sept. 17 | Oct. 3 | Oct. 29

[Register for Introduction to Climate Disclosure](#)

### ADVANCED CLIMATE DISCLOSURE (2-day Workshop)

Understand climate reporting and work through the four TCFD categories, while learning about the financial community's expectations and investor perspectives. Explore examples from various industries and understand the benefits of different approaches. Develop an outline for your disclosure report with guided support.

Being offered in 2019 on the following dates:  
June 26 – June 27 (9am – 3pm over the two days)

[Register for Advanced Climate Disclosure](#)

## Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction

### Mission

To reduce the loss of life and property caused by severe weather and earthquakes through the identification and support of sustained actions that improve society's capacity to adapt to, anticipate, mitigate, withstand and recover from natural disasters.

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[www.basementfloodreduction.com](http://www.basementfloodreduction.com)



## 10.7) Updated flood plain maps will send the housing market underwater

# Updated flood plain maps will send the housing market underwater: Neil Macdonald

[https://www.cbc.ca/news/opinion/flood-plains-1.5135336?\\_vfz=medium%3Dsharebar](https://www.cbc.ca/news/opinion/flood-plains-1.5135336?_vfz=medium%3Dsharebar)

Eventually, entire communities will find themselves publicly identified as at-risk



[Neil Macdonald](#) · CBC News · Posted: May 14, 2019 1:15 PM ET | Last Updated: May 14



Next year, the federal government will begin uploading nearly 2,000 user-friendly flood plain maps, updating them with the most recent geospatial data. The impact will be devastating. (Justin Tang/The Canadian Press)

Note to outraged conservative readers: this opinion column was not assigned by Katie Telford. (The only world in which Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's chief of staff actually assigns journalists is the fever swamp of right-wing conspiracy theories).

No, this column was inspired by the sight of sandbags and portable toilets on the streets of a neighbourhood near the Ottawa River where I very nearly bought a house four years ago. That those negotiations fell through, in retrospect, was a bolt of luck for which I am now profoundly grateful. I would never consider buying near the river nowadays, for obvious reasons, and my guess is the miserable residents on those sandbagged streets spend a lot of time contemplating both their home values and the next catastrophic flood. There have been two in the last [three years](#). The Ottawa River surged past its banks weeks ago, and is still frighteningly swollen.



It never occurred to me, back in 2015, to check whether the home we tried to buy was at risk of flooding. Being near the river was a plus, not a threat. And even if I had checked, it probably wouldn't have done much good. Flood plain maps in Canada are about 25 years out of date.

But that's about to change. Next year, the federal government will begin uploading nearly 2,000 user-friendly flood plain maps, updating them with the most recent geospatial data. Eventually, entire communities will find themselves publicly identified as at-risk. What that will do to the value of their homes and their flood insurance premiums (assuming they can even get insurance), is obvious.

### **Drastic market devaluation**

"Oh! Oh!," says Prof. Blair Feltmate, delighted to have been asked. "There is going to be a massive devaluation of the housing industry in Canada, guaranteed. A million will turn into \$500,000 very rapidly."

Feltmate is head of the Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation at the University of Waterloo, one of those elite, leading-expert Cassandras so many of us just try to ignore.

Now, before the fever swampers start yelling conspiracy, this push to update flood plain maps is not coming from Liberal climate-change evangelists like Catherine McKenna, Trudeau's environment minister. Or David Suzuki. Or the Green Party. It is coming from the insurance industry. Put another way, conservatives: market forces. Feltmate's centre is largely funded by Intact Insurance, one of the industry's biggest players.

That's hardly surprising; no industry's profits are more immediately threatened by climate change than insurance. Between 1983 and 2008, says Feltmate, annual insurance payouts for catastrophic events in Canada, mostly flooding, averaged [between](#) \$250 million and \$450 million a year. In nine of the 10 years since 2009, the average annual payout has been \$1.8 billion. The average payout for a flooded basement is \$43,000 and rising.



Five per cent of at-risk homes in Canada cannot be saved. Their owners will have to evacuate. (Justin Tang/The Canadian Press)

So the industry wants two things: to push for flood-proofing, and to reassess premiums (or decide where not to insure, period). For that, it needs data. New, updated flood risk maps will give it clear justification to begin dramatically hiking premiums for some homeowners, or refusing them insurance

completely. It doesn't take much imagination to guess what will happen when the new maps begin to appear.

"It will put the new areas (newly included in flood plains) into panic mode," says Feltmate.

"There will be big pushback, big alarm. Now your home is stigmatized. A home is worth exactly as much as someone is willing to write a cheque for, and who would write a big cheque for a house suddenly identified as at risk of flooding?

"You will see people begin to default on their mortgages, because they know they owe more on the home than it will ever be worth."

The shorthand term for that in the real estate market is "going underwater." Until now, that term was figurative, not literal.

Furthermore, says Feltmate, the new data will also confirm what experts have known for some time: five per cent of at-risk homes in Canada cannot be saved. Their owners will have to evacuate.

### **Incentives to relocate**

That's already begun. The (conservative) Quebec government, citing climate change, has decided to cap flooding relief, and is now [offering](#) residents in areas at extreme risk of flooding \$200,000 to move somewhere else.

The reaction, of course, was immediate. Flooded homeowners all over the province told reporters that the government offer doesn't begin to cover what they think is the value of their homes. In fact, their homes' true value, in some cases, is now probably close to zero. After the catastrophes of 2017 and 2019, who would buy a home near the water in Pointe Gatineau, across from Ottawa? Or Lac Deux Montagnes, west of Montreal? Or parts of London, Ontario, or Calgary?

Feltmate says governments may eventually have to force high-risk residents to leave: Here's some money, we're shutting off your utilities.

And, he says, it's not a matter of whether there will be more flooding.

"What we have seen so far is nothing compared to what is coming. It is simply fact that the atmosphere is warming, and warmer air carries more moisture. This is the new normal."

The changes that have taken place so far, says Feltmate – and this is on public record, most recently affirmed in the alarming report by federal scientists released last month – are irreversible. And it is going to get worse, faster, and soon.



If there is any good news here, it is that communities and homeowners can take steps to drastically reduce flood risk. (Ryan Remiorz/Canadian Press)

Home inspectors, most of them until now minimally trained in basement flood assessment, are taking courses that will no doubt become mandatory. Colleges are actually putting the courses online. Mortgage providers will almost certainly begin demanding such assessments as a condition of approval. Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, which insures mortgages, will likely start insisting on it.

If there is any good news here, it is that communities and homeowners can take steps to drastically reduce flood risk. It will be possible to effectively remediate yourself off those flood plain maps, and protect the value of your home. But it will cost money.

Feltmate's Intact Centre lists steps anyone can take to keep the basement dry during anything short of Noah's flood. Installing two sump pumps with battery backup that will keep working when the power goes out. Waterproofing windows at ground level. Ensuring downspouts empty a good distance from your foundation. Installing backflow valves. Clearing eavestroughs and drains. Even digging up and replacing the grading around your house.

And, says Feltmate, people with homes on higher ground shouldn't feel smug. "Waterbomb" storms, now happening far more frequently, can (and will) turn an entire city into a flood plain instantly. At-risk communities can install concrete barriers, berms, diversion channels, underground cisterns, and improve natural swales – wetlands and marshes that act as natural drains.

And governments must start forbidding new home construction on flood plains. Unbelievably, most provinces – Ontario is the only one that asserts provincial control — leave that decision to municipalities, some of which, idiotically, still allow it, under pressure from developers and craving new property tax revenue.

The plain reality is that flood-proofing Canada will be staggeringly, historically costly. But the cost of not flood-proofing Canada will be incalculable.

It absolutely has to be done, and it has to be done now. The only question is, who's going to pay for it?

That's a political question. And it's not a subject Katie Telford, or anybody in any party trying to win this fall's election, probably wants to talk about right now. There's a reason those maps weren't updated for a quarter century.

More on that next week.

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***This column is part of CBC's Opinion section. For more information about this section, please read our [FAQ](#).***

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

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##### [Neil Macdonald](#)

Opinion Columnist

Neil Macdonald is an opinion columnist for CBC News, based in Ottawa. Prior to that he was the CBC's Washington correspondent for 12 years, and before that he spent five years reporting from the Middle East. He also had a previous career in newspapers, and speaks English and French fluently, and some Arabic.



## 10.8) Tax levies, subsidies could pay for high-risk flood insurance, report says

A mix of government subsidies and levies could create high-risk flood insurance option, IBC says

[David Thurton](#) · CBC News · Posted: Jun 17, 2019 8:33 PM ET | Last Updated: June 17



A man stands on a wall of sandbags protecting a home from flooding in Clarence-Rockland, Ont. in April. Craig Stewart, the Insurance Bureau of Canada's vice-president of federal affairs, said flooding currently costs the federal government about \$700 million a year, up from \$40 million a year in the 1990s. (Justin Tang/Canadian Press)

After a spring of devastating flooding, Public Safety Canada will consider a proposal to place levies on municipal taxes as a way to provide high-risk insurance to homeowners who aren't eligible and can't afford it.

CBC News obtained an advance copy of the report, which will be released Tuesday morning. It provides policy options to reduce the ballooning costs of destructive floods to homeowners and taxpayers.

The Insurance Bureau of Canada authored the report at the request of a provincial/territorial and federal working group that addresses flood risk management.

Titled *Options for Managing Flood the Costs of Canada's Highest Risk Residential Properties*, the report presents several policy considerations. One of them involves creating a high-risk pool of homeowners who are currently ineligible for flood insurance.

These homeowners would still pay premiums. But in order to make sure their premiums are affordable, they would be subsidized by a mix of government grants and levies.

IBC's vice-president of federal affairs, Craig Stewart, knows the concept of homeowners subsidizing people who live on scenic rivers and lakes seems controversial. But he says only homeowners who can't afford to rebuild would be eligible.

Currently, when disasters hit, wealthy and low-income homeowners receive disaster relief bailouts.

"Right now taxpayers are subsidizing everybody that gets bailed out by a flood," Stewart said. "At the end of the day it is governments that are bailing people out."

"We need a solution that people are paying for the risk that they face. And only those who are at low incomes are subsidized to a degree for that risk."



Stewart said any levy would be based on the specific risk within a jurisdiction.

### **Temporary municipal levy**

The report suggests initially using a mixture of levies and government subsidies to build funding for the high-risk insurance option.

"Once the pool is fully capitalized," the report states, "These contributions/levies could cease and governments could stop most of their financial assistance for flood-related damage to residential properties."

This spring municipalities in Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick experienced record-setting river levels and flooding.

The federal government called in the military to assist with sandbagging and protecting communities from the rising threat.

No estimate has been released on the total cost of the damage or the amount of money the provinces will be paying in disaster assistance.

### **Costs to taxpayers keep rising**

Stewart said the IBC believes flooding is the No. 1 climate threat Canadians face.

In the 1990s, Stewart said, flooding costs the federal government around \$40 million a year. Today, that's ballooned to \$700 million.



Stewart said the report proposes that only homeowners who can't afford to rebuild would be eligible for subsidies for high-risk flood insurance. (Marc Robichaud/CBC)

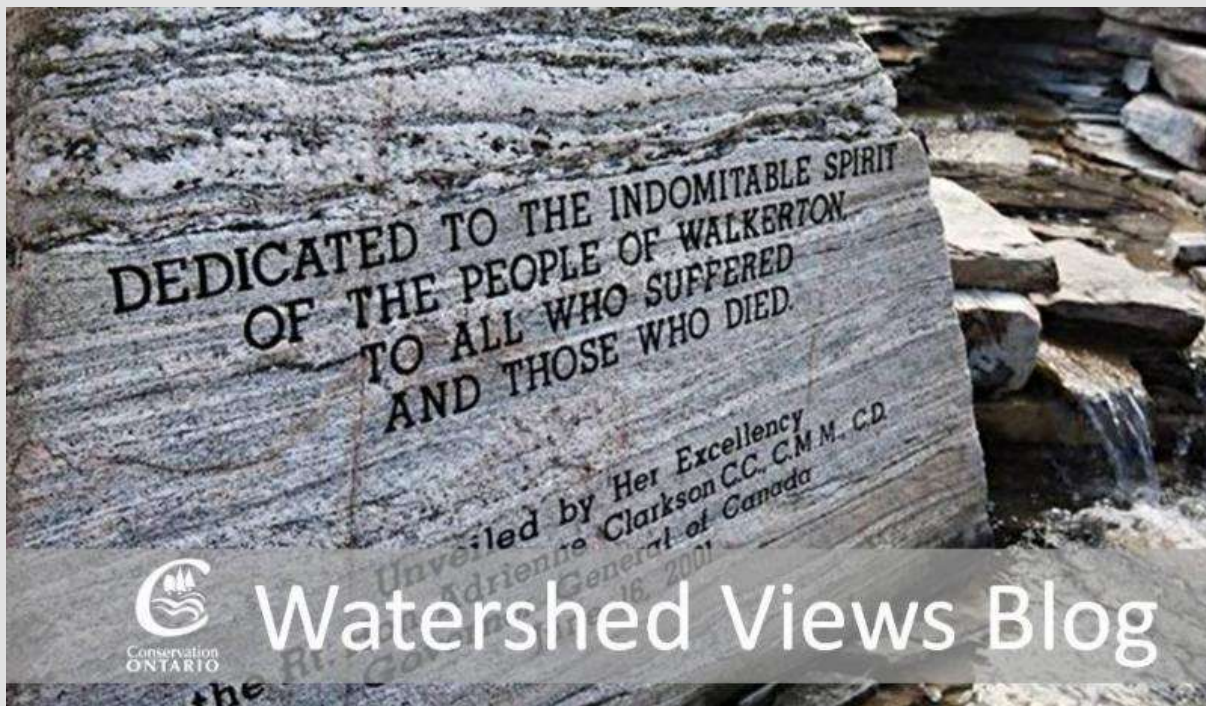
Stewart said the model is being used in the United Kingdom, where ratepayers pay a "small" levy to help provide insurance to homeowners who can't afford it.

The report doesn't outright recommend governments impose a municipal levy, but instead offers a qualitative score when it comes to several principles like affordability, inclusivity, taxpayer protections and financial sustainability. The option that includes subsidizing insurance premiums with levies and government grants scored the highest.

Other options — such as the status quo where the government bails out all homeowners, and another where individuals owners assume all of the risks — ranked lowest.

Now that the report is in the hands of Public Safety and the inter-governmental working group, a decision on which policy option to adopt is scheduled to be made next March or after the 2019 federal election.

## 10.9) Preventing Contamination and Depletion of Our Drinking Water Sources



### Preventing Contamination and Depletion of Our Drinking Water Sources is a Public Health Priority

*By Conservation Ontario staff*

In Walkerton, Ontario, a waterfall memorial is dedicated to victims of a severe water tragedy. It is a stark reminder to all of us about the dangers of poor water management. In May 2000, the town of Walkerton was faced with a severe flood event that, along with many other factors, led to the contamination of a municipal well with a deadly bacteria. Until the contamination was identified to residents, they trusted and continued to drink their tap water - with devastating effects. Seven people including one child died due to the contamination, and many residents were left with severe long-term illnesses including neurological damage, arthritis, and kidney failure.

In order to prevent such a tragedy from happening again in Ontario, the Province of Ontario passed laws including the *Safe Drinking Water Act (2002)* and the *Clean Water Act (2006)*. We need to protect the lakes, rivers and groundwater aquifers that are the sources of our drinking water. Eighty-five per cent of Ontarians rely on municipally treated water which comes from these sources. Removing certain substances that may pose a risk to our source water can be expensive and sometimes, not possible at all.

As well, in some parts of Ontario and during certain times of the year, even the supply of water is threatened from issues such as drought or competing uses. Preventing contamination and depletion from happening to our rivers, lakes and groundwater at the source is the best way to protect our drinking water!

Proposed Provincial changes to the mandate of conservation authorities include that the programs and services of source protection authorities under the *Clean Water Act* be designated as a mandatory program area. While

this is welcomed, watershed management must continue to be the basis by which we protect all sources of drinking water in Ontario, to avoid water tragedies. Effective flood management, drinking water source protection and climate change adaptation can't be delivered through a patchwork of unrelated projects, programs and services. They need to be planned and implemented on a watershed basis. (Conservation Ontario [info@conservationontario.ca](mailto:info@conservationontario.ca))

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**Do You  
Know  
How Your**

## **Drinking Water is Protected?**

In Ontario, we use a multi-barrier approach to protect drinking water. It combines a number of different actions including source protection, water treatment, inspections, testing, and safe distribution systems.

Ministry of the Environment,  
Conservation and Parks

Drinking Water and Environmental  
Compliance Division

Director's Office  
3rd floor  
40 St. Clair Ave West  
Toronto ON M4V 1M2

Ministère de l'Environnement, de la  
Protection de la nature et des Parcs

Division de la conformité en matière d'eau  
potable et d'environnement

Bureau du directeur  
3<sup>e</sup> étage  
40, avenue St. Clair Ouest  
Toronto ON M4V 1M2

May 10, 2019

Owners/Operators of Municipal Residential Drinking Water Systems,

Since 2014, the Ministry has recommended proactive monitoring for harmful algal blooms via an annual letter to owners and operators of municipal residential drinking water systems that use surface water as their source.

Please be aware that the Ministry is incorporating the requirement for a monitoring, sampling and reporting plan for harmful algal blooms into the municipal drinking water licence for these systems as a new standard condition during the upcoming licence renewal cycle. This will serve to provide assurance to the public that the treatment efficacy of drinking water systems and their drinking water quality is being monitored to provide them with safe and high-quality drinking water.

Between now and August 2021, the new harmful algae bloom monitoring condition will be included in your system's licence as they are renewed. In the interim, this letter serves to ensure a proactive monitoring plan is in place during the upcoming algal bloom season.

While observations have shown the concentrations of cyanobacteria (commonly known as blue-green algae) are typically low and the bacteria causes no problems; during hot and dry seasonal conditions cyanobacteria can rapidly and unexpectedly accumulate to high concentration blooms which can produce cyanotoxins. As such, all algae blooms should be regarded as potentially harmful.

The ministry recognizes that you have been proactively monitoring for a few years now and likely already have a monitoring, reporting and sampling plan (i.e., sample collection, testing, notification and response) in place for harmful algal blooms. With this in mind and with the summer quickly approaching, I am requesting that you please ensure your systems are operating efficiently and your staff are aware and trained to respond to harmful algal blooms. This vigilance is key to providing system owners/operators and local public health units the ability to respond appropriately to inform and protect the public in the event of a harmful algal bloom.



In preparation for the new condition being added to your license, please consider the following when reviewing your plan for the upcoming harmful algae season.

Monitoring actions should include, but not be limited to:

- Directly observing source water approaching and standing at system intake(s);
- Diligently collecting raw and treated water samples for total microcystin testing at a licensed laboratory;
- Notifying the Ministry, the local Medical Officer of Health (and the local Conservation Authority, if applicable) that a bloom has been observed in order that actions can be taken to protect the public.

System owners/operators should begin weekly monitoring and collecting one raw water sample and one treated water sample each week during the algae season, which typically occurs from June to October.

- A raw water sample should be collected at the intake or as close to it as possible to obtain a representative sample (i.e. prior to treatment, including zebra mussel control).
- A treated water sample should be taken at the point-of-entry to the distribution system.

Samples must be submitted to laboratories licensed to perform enzyme linked immunosorbent assay testing, also referred to as ELISA testing, for total microcystin. Where an ELISA test result for total microcystin is greater than or equal to 1.5 µg/L in a treated water sample, your licensed laboratory will submit the samples to the Ministry's laboratory for confirmatory testing of microcystin-LR. The Ministry's laboratory is the only laboratory licensed to perform the analyses of microcystin-LR, which provides an accurate concentration result that can be compared against the standard. The Ministry's laboratory does not charge for the sample analyses supporting this initiative.

If the Ministry's laboratory detects a microcystin-LR result that meets or exceeds the Ontario Drinking Water Quality Standard of 1.5 µg/L, they will immediately notify the Ministry's Spills Action Centre, the drinking water system owner/operator responsible for the sample and the local Medical Officer of Health, as required by the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*.

Drinking water systems that have not historically experienced harmful algal blooms should still visually monitor for the presence of blooms in the water around the drinking water system intake(s). If a bloom is observed, testing to confirm the presence of microcystin should be conducted in raw water. If microcystin is present in the raw water, the system should begin routine monitoring as above.



The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks remains committed to working with partners like you to better understand environmental factors such as nutrient levels and weather conditions that contribute to harmful algal blooms in our provincial lakes, rivers and inland waterbodies.

If you have any questions, please contact the Ministry by phone at 1-866-793-2588 or by email at [drinking.water@ontario.ca](mailto:drinking.water@ontario.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SMcCharles', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Scott McCharles  
Director, Deputy Chief Drinking Water Inspector  
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

**Table 1: Roles and Responsibilities**

LEAD	ROLE	RESPONSIBILITY
DISTRICT	Lead responder for Drinking Water and Environmental Compliance Division and incident coordination	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coordination of program delivery, communications, information and documentation of incident.</li> <li>2. Follow-up on information from initial intake as necessary (who, what, when, where, etc.) to confirm HAB – See Table 2.</li> <li>3. Drinking Water staff to take appropriate action, if regulated drinking water system is impacted, or possibly impacted, by a suspected bloom (in accordance with regulated drinking water system response SOP)</li> <li>4. Direct public to FACT sheets, indicate what, if anything, will be done based on the information provided.</li> <li>5. Provide preliminary notification of possible HAB event to Health Unit, Municipality, Conservation Authority and, as appropriate, other agencies.</li> <li>6. Facilitate discussions to determine need for field visits and/or monitoring programs (include HU, CPSB-WPS, Tech. Support, ESSD – EMRB &amp; LaSB).</li> <li>7. Coordinate implementation of field visits and monitoring programs.</li> <li>8. Provide notification of results from field visits and monitoring programs to HU, Municipality, the CA, and, as appropriate, other agencies.</li> <li>9. Maintain flow of communication between agencies.</li> <li>10. Track and document information in IDS, including termination of incident.</li> </ol>
TECHNICAL SUPPORT	Scientific and technical support for field visits	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Respond to supplementary review requests for scientific and technical field support from district.</li> <li>2. Conduct field visits of the natural environment.</li> <li>3. Provide findings of field assessment back to district on supplementary review in IDS.</li> </ol>
SAC	Primary point of contact	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Intake of reports of algae events (actual blooms, adverse water quality) and of concerns/questions (who what when where, etc.). Originate an incident report.</li> <li>2. Follow after-hours notification procedure (AWQI, SAC Card # 49); Follow drinking water SOP; Forward incident report - District.</li> <li>3. Direct caller to relevant FACT sheets, indicate that call will be forwarded to district office, if necessary.</li> </ol>
ESSD – EMRB + LABORATORY	Scientific information and laboratory analysis	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Respond to requests for expertise/analysis/information.</li> <li>2. Provide results of analysis.</li> </ol>
HEALTH UNIT	Lead on health issues and both private and non-MECP regulated drinking water systems	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide information on health risks and health issues related to HABs and microcystin-LR toxin.</li> <li>2. Provide public notification as appropriate; includes non-MECP regulated drinking water facilities.</li> <li>3. Request additional information and/or scientific field support from MECP through District Office.</li> </ol>

# Western Lake Erie Harmful Algal Bloom Early Season Projection

11 June 2019, Projection 06



The severity of the western Lake Erie cyanobacterial harmful algal bloom (HAB) is dependent on input of bioavailable phosphorus from the Maumee River during the loading season (March 1-July 31). This product gives an estimate of potential bloom severity based on a combination of measurements to date and forecasts of phosphorus loads into July. The projection will be updated weekly with new data and weather models through the end of June. The final seasonal forecast will be made on July 11 using the measured phosphorus loads for the spring.



We project that the bloom will have a severity greater than 7 (much greater than 2018). This forecast has not changed since last week. Rainfall is expected to decrease, but there is still uncertainty in the forecasts of the locally-heavy rainfall events in June. The maximum severity includes the possibility of additionally heavy rain over the next several weeks. Any bloom that develops will change with time and move with the wind. Severity forecasts do not indicate toxicity.

Total bioavailable phosphorus (TBP) is the sum of dissolved phosphorus and the portion of particulate phosphorus available for HAB development. The TBP loads are projected based on Heidelberg University data, river forecasts from the National Weather Service Ohio River Forecast Center (through early July), and previous years to the end of July.

Stumpf, Noel (NOAA), Johnson (Heidelberg University) with assistance from Davenport and Tomlinson (NOAA)

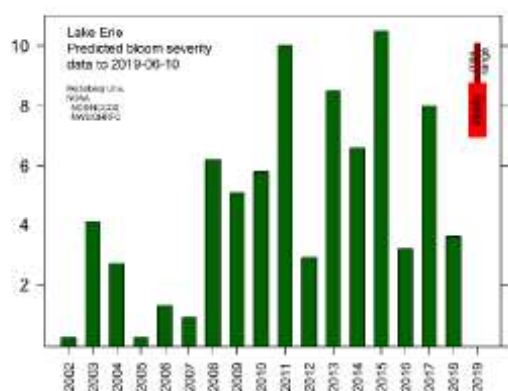


Figure 1. Projected bloom compared to previous years. The wide bar is the likely range of severity based on limits of model uncertainty. The narrow bar is the potential range of severity. Because the forecast uses modeled discharge for a month, there is uncertainty in maximum bloom severity.

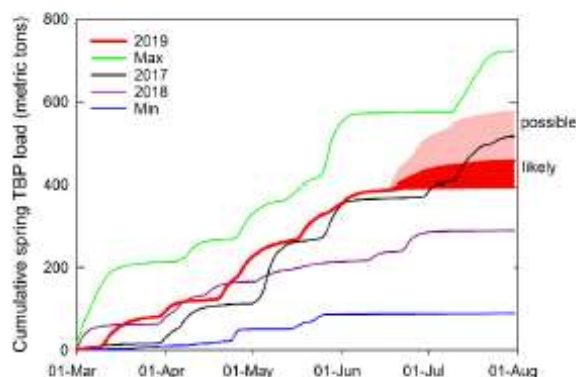


Figure 2. Cumulative total bioavailable phosphorus (TBP) loads for the Maumee River (based on Waterville). Each line denotes a different year. 2019 is in red, the solid line is the measured load to June 10th, the red area shows the likely range for the remainder of the loading season, and the light red shows the possible range.

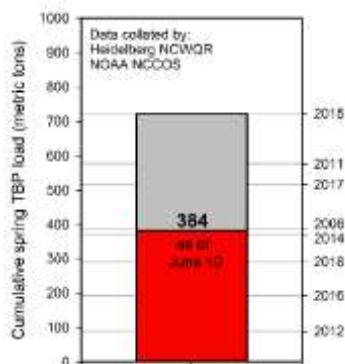


Figure 3. Total bioavailable phosphorus (TBP) load accumulated from the Maumee River near Waterville to date. The right axis denotes the TBP load from selected previous years. Loads through June 10 exceeds 2014.



Figure 4. True color image on 08 June 2019 derived from OLCI on Copernicus Sentinel-3b satellite. There have been many cloudy days. A plume of sediment from the Maumee River causes the tan color in the western basin. Most of the central basin has relatively low amounts of sediment in the water.

For more information visit: <http://www.ncwqr.org/> or <http://coastalscience.noaa.gov/research/habs/forecasting/>

# 11. Events Calendar

<b>June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019</b>	<b>Chatham-Kent Youth Festival - 11 a.m. to 3pm</b>
<b>June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019</b> 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm	<b>McKinlay Memorial Forest Dedication Service at Merlin Conservation Area</b>
<b>June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019</b> 8:00 am to 10:30 am	<b>WWF's Kids' Run for Nature at C.M. Wilson Conservation Area</b>
<b>June 19<sup>th</sup> &amp; 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019</b> Multiple sessions throughout both days	<b>Lake Erie Shoreline Open House – 780 Ross Lane, Erieau Fire hall</b> -Please sign up for a preferred date and time
<b>July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019</b> 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm	<b>Artifact Day at Longwoods Road Conservation Area</b>
<b>July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019</b> 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm	<b>Discover Species at Risk in the Lower Thames Valley at C.M. Wilson Conservation Area</b>
<b>2019</b> <b>August 15</b> - 10 am and 1 pm <b>August 16</b> - 10 am and 1 pm <b>August 17</b> - 10 am and 1 pm <b>August 18</b> - 10 am (only)	<b>Learn to Fish Workshops</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o C.M. Wilson Conservation Area</li><li>o Big Bend Conservation Area</li><li>o Sharon Creek Conservation</li><li>o Sharon Creek Conservation Area</li></ul>
<b>Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019</b> 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm	<b>McKinlay Memorial Forest Dedication Service – C.M. Wilson Conservation Area</b>
<b>September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019</b> 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm	<b>Big Bend Memorial Forest Dedication Service – Big Bend Conservation Area</b>
<b>Tilbury,</b> 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm	<b>Tilbury Northside Park Memorial Forest Dedication Service</b>
<b>September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019</b> 11:00 am to 4:00 pm	<b>Spirit of the Harvest – Longwoods Road Conservation Area and Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum</b>
<b>October 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019</b> 9:30 am – 2:00 pm	<b>10th Annual Chatham-Kent &amp; Lambton Children's Water Festival</b>
<b>October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019</b>	<b>Family Day – CK &amp; L Children's Water Festival – C.M. Wilson Conservation Area</b>
<b>November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019</b> 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm	<b>Season's Greetings at Longwoods Road Conservation Area</b>

## Ongoing Events

**First Thursday of month**  
7:30 pm

**Wheatley Two Creeks Association Meetings**  
Royal Canadian Legion, Erie Street N., Wheatley

**7 days a week**  
9:00 am – 4:30 pm

**Ska-Nah-Doht Village & Museum**  
Longwoods Road Conservation Area

**July 2 through to August 20**  
7:30 pm

**Twilight Tuesdays at Longwoods Road Conservation Area**

For more information contact:  
LTVCA Administration Office: 519-354-7310  
Longwoods Road Conservation Area: 519-264-2420  
C.M. Wilson Conservation Area: 519-354-8184  
[www.ltvca.ca](http://www.ltvca.ca)

## 12. Other Business

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## 13. Adjournment

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