



# Board of Directors Meeting

## A G E N D A

**August 24, 2017**

**5:00 p.m.**

**Longwoods Road Conservation Area, Pavilion**

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10.	Other Business	
10.1)	Committee of the Whole – <i>closed session</i>	
11.	Adjournment	

# 4. Approval of Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – July 15, 2017

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## Board of Directors Meeting

### MINUTES

A meeting of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority's Board of Directors was held at the CM Wilson Conservation Area Barn commencing at 5:00 P.M. on Thursday, June 15, 2017. The following directors were in attendance: L. McKinlay, H. McDonald, J. Kavelaars, R. Doane, M. Smibert, S. Caveney, G. Bogart and T. Thompson. B. Purcell sat in on behalf of D. McKillop. S. Pinsonneault, L. Leclair, and J. Wolf sent their regrets.

1. Call to Order

2. Adoption of Agenda

Don Pearson noted that there is an additional Business for Approval item, 6.5) Farmington Estates Subdivision, and Correspondence item 8.7) OSCIA media release to be added to the agenda.

1. J. Kavelaars – G. Bogart

Moved that the agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

3. Disclosures of Conflict of Interest

None Declared.

4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting (Previously circulated)

2. S. Caveney – M. Smibert

Moved that the minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of April 20, 2017 be approved.

CARRIED

5. Business Arising From the Minutes

None noted.

6. Business for Approval

6.1) Budget vs Revenue and Expenditures for the period ending May 31, 2017

3. M. Smibert – H. MacDonald

Moved that the Board of Directors receive the Budget vs Revenue and Expenditures report for the period ended May 31, 2017.

CARRIED

6.2) Longwood's / Ska-Nah-Doht Visioning Project

4. S. Caveney – G. Bogart

Moved that the LTVCA match the \$10,000 in funding being committed to by the Foundation, as the London Community Foundation application has not been successful to date.

CARRIED

6.3) LTVCA Response to Domestic Action Plan, Lake Erie Phosphorous

Jason Wintermute, Water Management Supervisor provided a Power Point Presentation on the DAP to the LTVCA Board of Directors.

5. B. Purcell – G. Bogart

The Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority (LTVCA) Board of Directors endorses the June 16, 2017 letter to Environment and Climate Change Canada and the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate, in response to the Canada-Ontario Draft Action Plan, Partnering in Phosphorus Control: Achieving Phosphorus Reductions in Lake Erie from Canadian Sources (February 2017), which includes comments and commitments from the LTVCA, with the understanding that the implementation of any new or expanded phosphorous reduction programs will require additional funding from upper levels of government.

CARRIED

6.4) Ska-Nah-Doht Advisory Committee Minutes & Recommendations

6. G. Bogart – J. Kavelaars

Moved that the Board of Directors approve the recommendations of the Ska-Nah-Doht Advisory Committee Minutes of April 13, 2017 and May 25, 2017.

CARRIED

6.5) Legacy Estates Subdivision

7. J. Kavelaars – R. Doane

Moved that the Board of Directors empower staff to deviate from the strict application of the Flood Policy for southwest Chatham to accommodate the development of two infill lots in Legacy Estates; while maximizing the opportunity to mitigate flood risk.

CARRIED

7. Business for Information

7.1) Water Management

8. S. Caveney – R. Doane

Moved that the agenda item 7.1.1 be received for information.

CARRIED

7.1.2) Water Control Structures

9. J. Kavelaars – H. MacDonald

Moved that the agenda item 7.1.2 be received for information.

CARRIED

7.2) Source Water Protection

10. G. Bogart – M. Smibert

Moved that the agenda item 7.2 be received for information.

CARRIED

7.3) Regulations and Planning

11. B. Purcell – S. Caveney

Moved that the agenda item 7.3 be received for information.

CARRIED

7.4) Conservation Areas

12. M. Smibert – H. MacDonald

Moved that the agenda item 7.4 be received for information.

CARRIED

7.5) Conservation Services

13. B. Purcell – S. Caveney

Moved that the agenda item 7.5 be received for information.

CARRIED

7.6) Community Relations

14. T. Thompson – R. Doane

Moved that the agenda item 7.6 be received for information.

CARRIED

7.7) Conservation Authority Education

15. H. MacDonald – J. Kavelaars

Moved that the agenda item 7.7 be received for information.

CARRIED

7.8) Health and Safety Committee Meeting minutes

16. J. Kavelaars – S. Caveney

Moved that the agenda item 7.8 be received for information.

CARRIED

7.9) Wheatley Two Creeks Association minutes

17. M. Smibert – H. MacDonald

Moved that the agenda item 7.9 be received for information.

CARRIED

#### 7.10) GM's Report

18. B. Purcell – J. Kavelaars

Moved that the agenda items 7.1 through to 7.10 be received for information.

CARRIED

#### 8. Correspondence

- 8.1) CO Correspondence Re: Gilmor vs. Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Decision
- 8.2) CO Media Release – First Look at Proposed Changes to the CA Act
- 8.3) CO Media Release – Bill 139, Building Better Communities & Conserving Watersheds Act
- 8.4) CO Correspondence – Amendment of Procedural Rules for Mining & Lands Commissioner
- 8.5) CO Correspondence – Proposed regulation under the Public Lands Act
- 8.6) Correspondence – Ms. Bachus Re: Rose Beach Line Drain
- 8.7) Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association – Media Release: Improving Water Quality

19. R. Doane – J. Kavelaars

Moved that the agenda items 8.1 to 8.7 be received for information.

CARRIED

#### 9. Other Business

None reported.

#### 10. Events Calendar

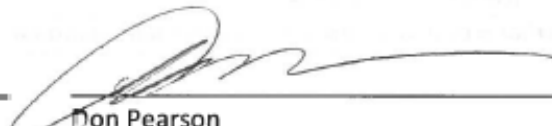
#### 11. Adjournment

18. T. Thompson – S. Caveney

Moved that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Linda McKinlay  
Chair



Don Pearson  
General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

## 6. Business for Approval

### 6.1) Budget vs Revenue and Expenditures for the period ending July 31, 2017

#### Background:

Review the 2017 Budget to the Revenue and Expenditures for the 7 months ended July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017.

#### Current Situation:

EXPENSES	2017 BUDGET	2017 BUDGET JULY PROJECTED	2017 ACTUAL TO JULY 31	\$ VARIANCE TO PROJECTED
<b>WATER MANAGEMENT</b>				
FLOOD CONTROL STRUCTURES	254,889	148,685	77,698	(70,987)
EROSION CONTROL STRUCTURES	13,268	7,740	3,951	(3,789)
FLOOD FORECASTING AND WARNING	201,666	117,639	83,364	(34,275)
TECHNICAL STUDIES	28,970	16,899	39,330	22,431
PLANNING & REGULATIONS	196,865	114,838	104,442	(10,396)
WATERSHED MONITORING (PGMN)	76,860	44,835	65,187	20,352
SOURCE PROTECTION	22,768	13,281	19,107	5,826
THAMES MOUTH DEBRIS REMOVAL	1,602	935	0	(935)
<b>Water Management Subtotal</b>	<b>796,888</b>	<b>464,852</b>	<b>393,079</b>	<b>(71,773)</b>
<b>CONSERVATION &amp; RECREATION PROPERTIES</b>				
<b>CONSERVATION AREAS</b>	<b>562,961</b>	<b>328,394</b>	<b>371,161</b>	<b>42,767</b>
<b>COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND EDUCATION</b>				
COMMUNITY RELATIONS	154,337	90,030	93,068	3,038
CONSERVATION EDUCATION	95,766	55,864	52,791	(3,073)
SKA-NAH-DOHT VILLAGE	239,394	139,647	104,339	(35,308)
<b>Community Relations &amp; Education Subtotal</b>	<b>489,497</b>	<b>285,541</b>	<b>250,198</b>	<b>(35,343)</b>
<b>CONSERVATION SERVICES/STEWARDSHIP</b>				
CONSERVATION SERVICES (FORESTRY)	133,849	78,079	120,081	42,002
CHATHAM-KENT GREENING PROJECT	837,225	488,381	526,166	37,785
PHOSPHORUS REDUCTION	276,608	161,355	216,385	55,030
COMMUNITY TREES INITIATIVE	0	0	0	0
<b>Conservation Services/Stewardship Subtotal</b>	<b>1,247,682</b>	<b>727,815</b>	<b>862,632</b>	<b>134,817</b>
<b>CAPITAL/MISCELLANEOUS</b>				
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING	0	0	3,842	3,842
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>3,842</b>	<b>3,842</b>
	<b>3,097,028</b>	<b>1,806,602</b>	<b>1,880,912</b>	<b>74,310</b>

REVENUE	2017	2017 BUDGET		2017 ACTUAL	\$ VARIANCE
	BUDGET	JULY PROJECTED		TO JULY 31	TO PROJECTED
GRANTS	546,900	319,025	*	792,287	473,262
GENERAL LEVY	1,367,352	1,367,352	^	1,208,483	(158,869)
DIRECT SPECIAL BENEFIT	205,000	205,000	^	205,000	0
GENERAL REVENUES	934,174	544,935	*	538,316	(6,619)
FOUNDATION GRANTS & REVENUES	17,000	9,917	*	10,000	83
RESERVES	26,602	15,518	*	0	(15,518)
<b>CASH FUNDING</b>	<b>3,097,028</b>	<b>2,461,747</b>		<b>2,754,086</b>	<b>292,339</b>
OTHER	0	0		547,760	547,760
<b>TOTAL FUNDING</b>	<b>3,097,028</b>	<b>2,461,747</b>		<b>3,301,846</b>	<b>840,099</b>

\*-based on a 7 of 12 month proration of the budget

^-based on cash received to Aug 16, 2017

### **Discussion:**

#### **Expenses**

##### **Water Management**

Flood Control Structures, Erosion Control Structures, Flood Forecasting and Warning expenses are below budget as there are several larger projects and expenses planned for late summer/early fall.

Technical Studies are above budget due to a full-time GIS Co-op and some one-time GIS contract work performed by Upper Thames.

Planning and Regulations is slightly below budget as there have been minimal legal costs incurred in the current year.

Watershed Monitoring is above budget because of the increased costs with from the Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network (PWQMN) grant.

Note: There is \$21,000 of capital asset expenditures for the PWQMN grant not included in this amount. They will be capitalized and amortized over the life of the assets.

##### **Conservation Areas**

Conservation area expenses are greater than projected as most large projects, activities and related expenses are under way at this time of year.

Note: There is \$11,000 of capital asset expenditures related to the acquisition of the new conservation area. These expenditures will be capitalized to the cost of this property.

##### **Community Relations**

Community Relations and Conservation Education are comparable to budget. SKA-NAH-DOHT Museum and Village is under budget as there are several projects that are in process with more expenses to come.

##### **Conservation Services**

Conservation Services (Forestry) and Chatham-Kent Greening expenses are above budget due to another successful spring planting season and the expenses for a large MTO job and several other smaller grants received that were not included in the budget.



Phosphorous Reduction is above budget due to the new Rondeau Monitoring and other smaller grants that were not included in the budget, as well as, some expenses related to the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative.

Note: There is \$43,000 of capital asset expenditures for the GLASI program not included in this amount. They will be capitalized and amortized over the life of the assets.

### **Administration**

Administration building is higher than budget do to some finishing touches on the parking lot.

### **Revenue**

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

Levy revenue is shown on a cash basis. The following municipalities are paid in full as of Aug 16, 2017: Chatham-Kent, Dutton/Dunwich, Leamington, London and Southwest Middlesex.

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

- Conservation education and SKA-NAH-DOHT Village revenue is slightly below the prorated budget balances due to the seasonal nature of these programs;
- Conservation Services and the Chatham Kent Greening Project are lower as some of the activities have to be transferred from the database into the accounting system;

This is slightly off-set by planning and regulations fees being higher than budget due to increased permit demands and Conservation Area revenues higher then budget due the summer months being the peak months of activity and revenue, Devereux being rented in the current year and several one-time donations for projects at McGeachy and Devereux.

Foundation Grants and Revenues are comparable to budget.

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

The large 'Other Revenue' item is due to the generous donation of a parcel of land.

### **Recommendation:**

That the Board of Directors receives the Budget vs Revenue and Expenditures report for the period ended July 31, 2017.

# 7. Business for Information

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## 7.1) Water Management

### 7.1.1) *Flood Forecasting and Operations*

There have been two significant events from a Flood Forecasting and Operations perspective since the last Board of Directors meeting in June, both involved Lake Erie shoreline related flooding along Erie Shore Drive in Chatham-Kent due to high water levels and strong winds.

The first event occurred on June 29<sup>th</sup>. LTVCA staff were informed that flooding in the yards of residential properties reportedly began around 10:00 a.m. and by 11:00 a.m. water was observed on the roadway. By 3:00 waves had diminished and the drainage infrastructure of the area began to catch up. The LTVCA issued a Flood Watch advisory at 12:45 p.m. that day. Observed sustained winds were at 35km/hr from the southwest, only periodically making it up to 40km/hr. There have been numerous occasions this last year where these same wind speeds and direction occurred but flooding was not observed. It is not clear what localized conditions tipped the balance and caused flooding this time.

The second event occurred on August 4<sup>th</sup>. A Flood Outlook advisory was issued by the LTVCA at 10:30 a.m. Forecasts were calling for winds of 40 to 45 km/hr from the southwest with wave heights of 2m. Flooding in the yards of residential properties reportedly began around noon and shortly thereafter water was flowing over the road in two locations into the drainage ditch on the far side. The advisory was upgraded to a Flood Warning around 3:30 p.m. Winds diminished a bit and switched to a more westerly direction later in the evening and the flood waters receded overnight. The impression by LTVCA staff was that this flooding event lasted longer, impacted more properties and caused more flooding over the road than any previous event over the last few years. In the afternoon, 38 properties were observed to have water in their front yards. However, no damage from erosion or damage to shoreline protection structures was reported for this event.

### 7.1.2) *Water Control Structures*

Repairs to the flow control weir on McGregor Creek at Highway 40 were completed by the contractor on August 15<sup>th</sup>. Water Survey of Canada will need to confirm the depth to flow relationship at the location, but the repaired structure work well enough to allow flood forecasting to resume using the previous relationship. However, the relationship at low flows, suitable for the Low Water Response program and summer water quality monitoring, may take several years to stabilize and get recalculated.

Work at the bridge over the Thames River in Thamesville also continues. The gauge house previously containing the water level instrumentation has now been removed and the equipment relocated to an adjacent structure used for water quality monitoring by Environment and Climate Change Canada. As a result, the rain gauge at that location is off-line until construction finishes and a new gauge house is installed. Water Survey of Canada has also taken the opportunity to switch the data collection system to a satellite based GOES system from the former phone line and modem system.

The LTVCA has received complaints about debris blockages and jams on McGregor Creek at the 6<sup>th</sup> St. Dam over the summer. The reality is that there just aren't enough flows in the summer and material just sits there or even moves upstream due to winds. A few days after the complaints there was a small rainfall event and all the material flushed through on its own.

### **7.1.3) Low Water Response Program**

There currently isn't a Low Water Condition declared in the Thames River watershed, either in the Upper or the Lower Thames. Total precipitation over the last three months has been kept within normal ranges at the locations of rain gauges due to thunderstorm activity. Some areas, however, have missed these showers and are substantially dryer. If this dry August continues, we could see Low Water Conditions declared in September.

### **7.1.4) Watershed Monitoring**

Staff continue to collect surface water quality samples throughout the Lower Thames watershed for the Provincial (Surface) Water Quality Monitoring Program (PWQMN) as well as for the additional water quality sampling funded through the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC). That MOECC grant was recently renewed by the MOECC for another year and contains funding for surface water sample collection and analysis at approximately 13 grab sample locations throughout the watershed, at an automated sampler at the Rivard Pump station in Dover Township, and at an automated sampler to be installed at McGregor Creek and Hwy 40 when construction there finishes. The funding also allows a Co-op student to be hired every semester to assist with the sampling.

### **7.1.5) Thames River Clear Water Revival**

The Steering committee of the Thames River Clear Water Revival has not met since the last Board of Directors meeting. The Technical Working Groups have held numerous meetings over the last few months to finalize recommendations and associated action items. Although not yet scheduled, it is hoped that the Steering Committee will reconvene in September.

### **7.1.6) Information Technology Upgrades**

There are no significant changes or updates related to the Authority's information technology systems.

## 7.2) Regulations and Planning

### 7.2.1) *Planning and Regulations Policy Update*

Teresa Little, our Canada Summer Job summer student has draft finalized the internal review comments for the policy. Senior staff are rereading the document in its entirety to ensure completeness. Comments from the public as well as member municipalities, agencies, surrounding conservation authorities, consultants and other NGO's will be sought after the final staff review of the document. The draft document will be located on our website and the link will be provided to the above noted agencies and individuals or upon request.

### 7.2.2) *Legacy Estates Subdivision Update – in camera session*

### 7.2.3) *Section 28 Regulations Update*

As of 31 July 2017, staff have reviewed a total of 172 permit applications with respect to Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 152/06. In 2015 and 2016, staff had reviewed a total of 96 and 146 permit applications, respectively, in the same time period. Of the 172 permit applications, all but one were able to be approved by staff. The application which was not approved by staff was refused by the Executive Committee in an April hearing.

Staff have heard from other conservation authorities that they have also noticed a marked increase in permit applications this year. While the reasons are unknown, LTVCA staff speculate that the hot housing market combined with the increase in residents from the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) moving to our area may be a contributing factor. Staff have observed a number of property inquiries from GTA residents and both LTVCA staff and Chatham-Kent building inspectors have also observed an increase in building permit applications and inquiries from GTA residents moving to the area.

In addition, historically within the City of Chatham (both prior to and post amalgamation) the building inspectors would handle flooding concerns as part of the building permit process. This was done to reduce the red tape for landowners/developers as the City had coverage of flooding concerns within their Official Plan and zoning bylaws. This method was in agreement with the recommendations of the 1985 Special Policy Study which led to the City of Chatham being designated as a Special Policy Area by the province. This designation provides relaxed flood plain management standards on landowners/developers and allows greater flexibility in land use within the flood plain. The study said that all of its policies (like minimum flood proofing standards) should be implemented by the City through the comprehensive zoning bylaw. Only applications which would not conform to the zoning by-law and its standards would be sent to the LTVCA for approval. Since the recent Legacy Estates application for development that the board was briefed on at the last meeting, LTVCA staff have observed an increase in correspondence with the municipality for proposal comment, review, and/or obtaining a LTVCA permit within the City.

Below are some quick statistics for 2017 Section 28 regulations as of 31 July 2017:

71% of applications have been within the Municipality of Chatham-Kent;  
49% of applications have been for private property owners;  
38% of applications have been for municipal drain or infrastructure projects;  
Twelve habitat/stewardship applications have been received/approved with their fees waived;  
530 general property inquiries (telephone count only) have been received and responded to;  
3,177 e-mails received and 1,763 e-mails sent; and,  
Total of permit application and hearing fees = \$36,575.00

### 7.2.4) Enforcement – Section 28

Nineteen Section 28 enforcement / complaint issues have arisen in 2017 which is nine more than what was reported at the last board meeting. A summary of some of the recent and ongoing issues are presented below:

Location	Description of Violation / Complaint	LTVCA Action Details
Kent Street Shrewsbury Chatham-Kent	Complaint of woody debris getting into watercourse (which is also a provincially significant wetland) from boat well infilling and tree cutting.	Landowner has been advised that he/she must contact LTVCA staff following the installation of the silt curtain so staff can inspect the installation. Silt curtain must be properly embedded into the ground and secure. Staff must be present when infilling of boat well continues to ensure branches, trees, and other debris are not utilized.
Algonquian Drive Chatham Chatham-Kent	Complaint to the municipality that flood plain on municipal property is wet – grass can't be cut and may be a breeding ground for mosquitoes. Complaint about ticks on the tall grass.	LTVCA provided comments to the complainant and municipality about the purpose of the floodplain and that it can expected to be wet following large precipitation events. Staff would support re-grading of the floodplain to construct a minor swale in the area to ensure drainage of the low-lying area to the creek provided no new fill was introduced.
Wellington St Shrewsbury Chatham-Kent	Concerns voiced to the LTVCA from multiple Shrewsbury residents regarding temporary fill stockpile location from a house addition under construction.	The municipality was notified by LTVCA staff that it was alleged that fill was being placed within the roadside ditch. The municipality sent a building inspector out and had the landowner remove the fill from the ditch. Bill Menzie of the Municipal Enforcement Unit spoke with the landowner to re-iterate that no fill would be permitted to be placed within the adjacent wetland as per the conditions on the landowner's LTVCA permit.
Multiple Addresses Lighthouse Cove	Multiple complaints by a few landowners regarding sheds constructed (without municipal or LTVCA permits) on docks across their canals.	LTVCA staff observed the properties from municipal roads. Some "sheds" were noted to have air conditioner units installed in their windows. As the LTVCA does not currently have the right to enter onto private property without obtaining a search warrant, staff notified the municipal building inspectors as the building inspectors have the right to enter onto private property and can deal with the situation quicker and more efficiently than the LTVCA. The LTVCA would have had to spend a lot of time and money obtaining multiple search warrants and go to court with multiple charges and cases in order to rectify the situation.
Sixth Street Dam Chatham Chatham-Kent	Complaint of floating debris build-up immediately upstream of the dam.	LTVCA staff removed the debris.
Indian Creek Road West Chatham Chatham-Kent	Alleged dredging of the watercourse and fill placement within a floodplain without a	LTVCA staff contacted the landowner with a warning. Landowner was unaware of the regulations and permit requirements and advised he would contact the LTVCA for all future work.

	permit.	
Bedford-Jones Drain Dutton Dunwich	Complaint about inadequate fill material used by drainage contractor on recently completed municipal drainage works.	LTVCA staff contacted the municipality with respect to the complaint. The municipality immediately contacted the contractor and who said that the situation would be rectified.
Erie Shore Drive Chatham-Kent	Complaint regarding the placement of poor quality fill (broken concrete with rebar and steel scraps) within the lake.	LTVCA staff forwarded the complaint to a MNRF conservation officer who made the initial site visit. LTVCA staff made a follow-up site visit to verify what the conservation officer reported. A second complaint was received later that same day alleging that more fill was going to be dumped into the lake. The conservation officer was notified who attended the site again and gave a verbal stop work order to the contractor and landowners until proper permits had been received from the DFO, MNRF, and LTVCA. The conservation officer noted that some of the steel scraps and rebar appeared to have been removed at his second site visit. No charges were laid.

## 7.2.5) Regulation Log Book

Staff Report

LTVCA Regulation Log Book 2017

B.D. 08/24/17

APP#	LOCATION	COMMUNITY/ TOWNSHIP	MUNICIPALITY	APP'N TYPE	DECISION
129-2017	Fifth Street Bridge over Thames River	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: June 01, 2017
130-2017	Townline Road and Rivard Line	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: June 02, 2017
131-2017	8th Concession Road Drain	Mersea	Leamington	Alteration	Granted: June 05, 2017
132-2017	Scott Drain	Mersea	Leamington	Alteration	Granted: June 05, 2017
133-2017	5 Wedgewood Crescent	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: June 07, 2017
134-2017	6544 Talbot Trail	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: June 07, 2017
135-2017	19130 Bluewater Avenue	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Alteration	Granted: June 08, 2017
136-2017	8368 to 8388 Water Street	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: June 12, 2017
137-2017	6933 Riverview Line	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: June 12, 2017
138-2017	107 Legacy Lane	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: June 19, 2017
139-2017	Riddell Drain	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: June 12, 2017
140-2017	Ian McKillop Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Alteration	Granted: June 12, 2017
141-2017	Green Line	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: June 20, 2017
142-2017	11952 Rose Beach Line	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: June 20, 2017
143-2017	56 Brock Street	Shrewsbury	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: June 20, 2017
144-2017	272 Detroit Line	Wheatley	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: June 22, 2017
145-2017	5 Stass Lane	Erieau	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: July 04, 2017
146-2017	16660 Couture Beach Road	Tilbury North	Lakeshore	Alteration	Granted: June 30, 2017
147-2017	Pollard Line Bridge over Gov't Drain #2 & #3	Tilbury East	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: June 30, 2017
148-2017	21000 Admiral Drive	Tilbury North	Lakeshore	Alteration	Granted: June 30, 2017
149-2017	21102 Admiral Drive	Tilbury North	Lakeshore	Construction	Granted: July 04, 2017
150-2017	Small & Holland Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Alteration	Granted: July 07, 2017
151-2017	17570 Melody Drive	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Alteration	Granted: July 07, 2017
152-2017	17580 Melody Drive	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Alteration	Granted: July 07, 2017
153-2017	17590 Melody Drive	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Alteration	Granted: July 07, 2017
154-2017	29 Renaissance Place	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: July 07, 2017
155-2017	James McGuigan Drain	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: July 07, 2017
156-2017	26 Renaissance Place	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: July 12, 2017
157-2017	449 King Street West	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: July 12, 2017
158-2017	Finn & Cooper Drain	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: July 11, 2017
159-2017	Government Drain No. 1	Tilbury East	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: July 11, 2017
160-2017	Riddell Drain	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: July 11, 2017
161-2017	28 Detroit Drive	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: July 12, 2017
162-2017	225 Canal Road	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Construction	Granted: July 18, 2017
163-2017	Kersey Drain	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: July 18, 2017
164-2017	Clifford Hitchcock Drain	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: July 18, 2017
165-2017	18650 Erie Shore Drive	Erie Shore Drive	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: July 21, 2017
166-2017	69 William Street	Shrewsbury	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: July 21, 2017
167-2017	21362 Talbot Line	Aldborough	West Elgin	Construction	Granted: July 21, 2017
168-2017	28358 Duff Line	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Construction	Granted: July 21, 2017
169-2017	36067 Third Line	Southwold	Southwold	Construction	Granted: July 26, 2017
170-2017	Ron Pinsonneault Pumping Works	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: July 19, 2017
171-2017	10045 River Line	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Construction	Granted: July 24, 2017
172-2017	24612 Jeannette Creek Road	Tilbury East	Chatham-Kent	Alteration	Granted: July 24, 2017

**Recommendation: That permit applications #129-2017 to #172-2017 be received.**

## 7.3) Conservation Areas

### 7.3.1 Conservation Area Attendance

The stats will be updated for the October meeting.

### 7.3.2 Conservation Area Updates

The Gatehouse has received an upgraded security system, is testing a new computer based permit/ reservation system, and is stocking and selling more products. A newspaper article published in the Chatham Daily News about upgrades to the park brought about many new inquiries about canoe and barn rentals. A small hydro upgrade was completed, and another upgrade is currently being discussed. As part of the Canadian Coasters celebrations and ongoing social media improvements a massive Muskoka chair photo opportunity was installed.



**Walter Devereux Conservation Area** – Farm Demonstration Site is underway. With financial assistance from OMAFRA (\$15,000) and Union Gas (\$9,000) we have created a self-guided interpretive trail that visitors can learn about rotational crops, windbreaks, tall grass prairie, maple syrup production and other best management practices. Opening ceremony is planned for September 20 at 1pm.

**Crane Conservation Area** – **Hazard** dead ash trees have been removed by staff, Hydro One and Summit tree services

**Season's Day Use Permits:** sold in 2017 so far: 36

### 7.3.3 Conservation Area Events

- Artifact Day - July 16

It was one of the best and busiest events in our history. The Ontario Archaeological Society, London Chapter (OAS) celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in the park, sharing not only their expertise but cake with everyone. Over 50 people participated. The OAS members looked at 12 community collections including a new Ska-Nah-Doht Education Collection that was donated by The Kirk Family of Hamilton. The family homestead was in south London from 1895 to 1940 where the collection originated. There are nearly 100 pieces ranging in dates from Paleo period (12,000 years ago) to Late Woodland (5,000 years ago). Thanks to Dr. Chris Ellis for identifying these artifacts. Jim Keron and Stan Wortner also set up ID tables to assist with the crowd! There was no time for spear throwing or traditional games but first-time flint knappers made jewelry and key chains with their new treasures.





- Twilight Tuesdays - July 4 – August 22 – Longwoods Road Conservation Area

This event now attracts 30 – 50 people every Tuesday night. We attribute this phenomenon to a combination of increased use of our Facebook pages and return customers. The last Tuesday event will be August 22. We start at 7:30 pm at the Resource Centre, with a guided evening walk through the Carolinian Forest and Ska-Nah-Doht Village, followed by a bonfire and sing-a-long.





- McKinlay Memorial Forest Dedication Service - June 11 at Merlin Conservation Area  
 A memorial tree service was held at the Merlin Conservation Area on Sunday June 11 at 2 p.m., sponsored by the McKinlay Funeral Homes Ltd., Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation and the LTVCA. Over 100 people attended. A ceremonial large stock tree was planted in memory of loved ones at the service.



- 'Canadian Coasters' 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tour – July 27, 2017 at C.M. Wilson Conservation Area  
 A great partnership event between the LTVCA and the Chatham-Kent Children's Safety Village. It was great working with Barb Lovell and Gary Paterson from the Village. Celebrating Canada 150 and their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the Canadian Coasters Car Club showcased their cars from 5-8 pm on Thursday July 27 at C.M. Wilson Conservation Area and the Safety Village. They drove their vintage cars and trailers across Canada with a one night stop at the conservation area. This was a free event to the public. The Coaster participants camped in Wilson campground and paid for their camping. The Safety Village received donations from people visiting the cars at the Safety Village. The Car Barn Restaurant fed the Coasters – 220 people – 110 heritage cars were expected. The Chatham-Kent Police and EMS were also on site. CK Mayor Randy Hope, CK Councillor Trevor Thompson and Rick Nichols – MPP for Chatham-Kent-Essex welcomed the crowd to Chatham-Kent.







C.M. Wilson Conservation Area, Brimley ON



"For a balanced and healthy watershed"

CHATHAM-KENT DISTRICTS (CITY) VILLAGE



TAKING THE ROAD TO GREAT

July 27, 2017

Celebrating Canada's 150 Anniversary

#### 7.3.4) Enforcement - Section 29

MEU

August 05 & 06 2017

Conducted patrols at all locations in Middlesex including Sharon Creek, there was no major incidents, other power outage at Big Bend MTCE was called and some underage drinkers caught near big bend, we attended Sharon Creek and found families enjoying the park, dogs on leashes, the rope is back, we checked persons for various things including fishing licences and other items all were in compliance. We will continue patrols at various times, these two patrols were done in evening hours.

## 7.4) Conservation Services

### 7.4.1) Wetland Restoration

*Project funding for wetlands was provided by the MNRF, ECCC, Wildlife Habitat Canada, Ducks Unlimited Canada, LTVCA and the project landowner.*

Over the winter 2017, four of eighteen wetland projects were completed. This summer the remaining 14 will be finished. The Agricultural Coordinator completed two additional wetland projects.

1. The Groenewegen wetland complex was recently restored during the fall of 2016. Historically the 50 acre floodplain of the Coleman drain was used as pastureland for livestock. The producer has now retired the land and restored 15 acres of wetlands and 5 acres of native tall grasses and forbs. The wetlands drain into the Coleman drain, which flows into Rondeau Bay. The restoration project will provide a suite of environmental benefits. The recently constructed wetlands will increase the water holding capacity of the floodplain and will reduce peak flows during severe rain events. It will also provide habitat for species at risk. Additionally, the site will sequester carbon dioxide.



2. The Pegg wetland complex was restored during the fall of 2016. 5 acres of marginal agricultural land was retired for restoration. Previous to the restoration, the land was annually cropped. 3 wetland cells were excavated and designed to capture surface water runoff and subsurface tile flow. The wetland complex outlets into the Beechard drain, which flows directly into the central basin of Lake Erie. Native grasses and forbs have been seeded around the wetland cells to provide additional upland habitat for a variety of species at risk. Additionally, the deep root systems of the native grasses will assist in stabilizing the soil and retaining nutrients.



3. The Myslik wetland restoration project began in 2014. Historically, the site was a pastureland for livestock. The landowner decided to retire the 100 acre field and restore the property to its natural state. 18,000 trees have been planted at the site and 15 acres of native tall grasses and forbs have been established to provide habitat for regionally based species at risk. Furthermore, 2 acres of wetlands have been restored and designed to capture farmland runoff from the adjacent field to reduce peak flows and to retain agriculturally sourced nutrients. The wetlands drain into the McGregor Creek sub-watershed, a tributary of the Thames River. The Myslik restoration project provides a diverse suite of environmental benefits to the region. In the future, the landowner also intends to donate the property to the LTVCA.





4. The Natvik Family of Orford Township have been great land stewards for generations. Recently this wetland was restored to add to their already dynamic Eco zone. The water flows north from the ridge south of Eberle Line into the main reservoir at the headwaters of Gooden Drain. From there it seeps into and through the 10 acre woodlot to the other side where there is a rock chute and tile to Gooden Drain.



Furthermore, through a \$130,000 grant from OMAFRA the LTVCA is monitoring 9 sites to determine the wetlands effectiveness at retaining and reducing agriculturally sourced phosphorus loads.

**Habitat Structures Installed** - Spring of 2017 began with habitat structure installations on 10 wetlands completed in the past winter. The ducks use these habitat cylinders to nest and get away from predators in fragmented habitats. The structures were installed by the Environmental Project Coordinator, Land Stewardship Technician, and our GIS Technician.



#### 7.4.2) Other Events

Stewardship staff attended events such as the Southwest Agriculture Conference at Ridgetown College, Farm Organization group meetings such as National Farmers Union, Christian Farmers of Ontario, and the Grain Farmers of Ontario. Staff promoted Stewardship projects that are available as well as networked with the farmers about the latest in the industry. Stewardship staff also attended the annual Maple Syrup Festival in Shrewsbury at the Conservation Authorities property Sinclair's Bush. This was a public event that allowed the public to learn the history of maple syrup, about the process of making maple syrup, and also a tour of Sinclair's Bush given by Stewardship staff Liam Laforest.



### 7.4.3) Public Partnerships and Projects

The **Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority** held its annual free tree program at CM Wilson Conservation Area on Earth Day April 22nd 2017. Staff gave Chatham- Kent Residents one bare root free tree per household, and species varied from Kentucky coffee tree, Ironwood, Sugar Maple, and Chinquapin Oak. Six hundred trees were given out in total ranging from 4ft to 7ft tall. A grand total of 1500 large stock trees were planted across the watershed with several partners. Citizens showed great interest this year and a lot of positive feedback was received.



Free Tree Day at C.M. Wilson

**Union Gas Helping Hands In Action** ~ Union Gas employees and retirees visited C. M. Wilson Conservation Area in Chatham-Kent to work with the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority to help restore the park and improve trails as part of the company's Helping Hands in Action program. By contributing their "sweat equity" volunteers help improve, renovate and add tangible value to non-profit and charitable organizations in their communities. This year a video was produced to help the community understand what it is that helping hands is and does:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TpF3O6J1gnc>



Riparian Ranger planting

### Scouts Canada & Riparian Rangers ~ LTVCA

Stewardship

Staff held an event at the Clear Creek Reforestation Project site with Scouts Canada and the Riparian Rangers on May 27th. 800 trees and 200 shrubs were planted by approximately 100 volunteers.



Scout Planting

**Media Events** ~ several articles were written about various stewardship activities over the course of spring and summer ensuring our message is fresh with our audience. Our 3 tours were well covered as well.



**Nature Conservancy Canada, Parks Ontario, Enbridge,  
Larry Cornelius, Aamjiwnaang**

**The Antler River Guardians** – This partnership entails the restoration of a Clear Creek quarry; a small parcel north of the main old growth forest known as Clear Creek. In efforts to reduce erosion and diversify the site the LTVCA created a series of pools to slow runoff and create a more dynamic habitat. The Nature Conservancy owns the land. Parks Ontario has been given management rights to the property. Enbridge is funding some of the cost requirements to naturally restore the quarry as well as the farm land south of Talbot Trail. Larry Cornelius is an environmental advocate who grows native plant species and is a member of the Sydenham Field Naturalists. The Aamjiwnaang first nation's greenhouse (Maajiigin Gumig) has appropriate native species for a planting at the quarry site. The Antler River Guardians youth will assist with the planting of plugs in the open top soil exposed from excavation.



Clear Creek Quarry before excavation

**CK Retention and Attraction**

**CK Public Health** – Sponsor what is known as “Your Roots Are Always in CK”. This partnership aims to retain youth or influence them to come back to CK after post-secondary. The CK Public Health also has an interest in skin cancer prevention through shading school yards and communities with trees.



**The Chippewa of the Thames** – Were a big partner for the Conservation Authority in 2017. Stewardship staff helped them plant over 450 large stock trees as well as over 2500 seedlings in the watershed. This was one of the larger group orders in 2017.



Shewburg Cemetery community tree planting event

**7.4.4) Other News**

The Lower Thames Valley hired Vicki McKay in August as our **Species at Risk Aquatic Biologist** to develop an aquatic Species at Risk (SAR) program for the Lower Thames watershed and implement a SAR Section 11 agreement with DFO. This position will develop, coordinate and implement all field sampling, laboratory analysis, data management and summary reporting for the LTVCA's aquatic monitoring program (including benthic invertebrate, fish and mussel habitat monitoring).

The purpose of this position is to fill data gaps and to grasp a better understanding of our water quality through stream biology which we have not previously had the resources to accommodate.



Lampsilis Mussel attracting bass with its life like lure

Alongside this we are encouraging the use of a new app called “Clam Counter”. This app is an educational tool which allows the community to learn more about aquatic mussel life cycles, anatomy, identifying features, and to help with data collection on mussel populations.

**Database Trial** – the first season with the new database system was a success. The database has streamlined our tree seedling inventory tracking, eased invoicing and cost share calculations for staff, and improved time spent on reporting. We are still fine tuning the system; however the process for stewardship project facilitation has improved drastically.



#### ***7.4.5) OMAFRA and GLASI Jeannettes Creek Priority Subwatershed Project Update***

The goal of this program is to provide funding to agricultural producers within the Jeannette’s Creek Sub-watershed to implement a suite Best Management Practices (BMPs) that will reduce phosphorus loading within the Lake Erie Basin. Where feasible, projects will be rigorously monitored to determine BMP effectiveness at reducing phosphorus loading, and to quantify the cost to reduce phosphorus per kilogram through a targeted stewardship approach.

Support for this project was provided by Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA) through the GLASI Priority Sub-watershed Project. Funding is provided by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) through Growing Forward 2.

#### ***GLASI PSP - Monitoring and Data Collection Activities***

##### **Water Quality Monitoring Network**

Significant precipitation during the spring of 2017 has led to a number of sampled rain events in the Jeannette’s Creek PSP study area. The LTVCA sampled 4 rain and flow events in the Jeannette’s Creek study area over the period of April 20th – May 31st, in which the region received a cumulative total rainfall of 150mm. 85 water samples were taken and sent to Caduceon Environmental Laboratories for nutrient concentration analysis from the 3 pump scheme monitoring stations.

The Jeannette’s Creek PSP area received a cumulative total precipitation of 44mm during the month of June. With crops now in their growth stage and with the soil being relatively dry the LTVCA has observed few runoff events in the region this June. However, the pump stations have run a few times during June and the LTVCA has collected 4 samples, which have been sent to the lab for analysis. Sampling will continue throughout the watershed over the duration of the summer; however we do not anticipate that the region will experience many significant flow events.

The Dauphin Pump Station will be undergoing maintenance during the months of July and August. Chatham-Kent Drainage will be removing the pumps to perform maintenance and will also be replacing the outlet pipes that are buried under the dike. The LTVCA will be required to remove our monitoring equipment from the pump station while the maintenance and repair is occurring at the pump station. Chatham-Kent Drainage will have a temporary PTO driven pump set up at the site to drain the scheme when necessary during the maintenance period. The LTVCA will collect grab samples during this time period and record run hours of the pump. Ideally, this will still provide the modellers with the required data to calculate nutrient loads.

During the month of July, the LTVCA will begin to install the new FTS Upstream Monitoring Station in the Deary pump scheme system. The station will be setup to sample water during flow events within the drain channel, upstream of the Deary pump station. This will provide the modellers with the ability to analyze how internal loads or legacy nutrients may be contributing to the total nutrient load discharged from the pump scheme. This is important, as we need to be



able to identify the internal nutrient contribution in order to accurately assess the effectiveness of the implemented suite of BMPs. The station will continuously collect data on the following metrics: turbidity, flow, water level and rainfall. Additionally, it will have the capacity to collect water samples during flow or rain events.

### **OMAFRA – BMP Verification Edge of Field Monitoring Sites**

During the period of April 20<sup>th</sup> – June 30<sup>th</sup>, 116 water samples were taken from the Edge-of-Field Best Management Practice (BMP) verification plots and were sent to the University Guelph Ridgetown Campus for analysis. In the future the nutrient concentration values from these samples will be used to calculate nutrient loads for each subsurface drainage plots within the Jeannette’s Creek study area.

The LTVCA completed the installation of the two recently acquired HACH FL900 flow totes during the month of May at the edge of field sites. Both units are now operational and collecting flow data.

The LTVCA held two conference calls with Merrin McRae (University of Waterloo) in May and July to begin the process of assembling and performing data quality control checks on the time-series datasets collected from the edge of field plots. Datasets have been assembled and transferred to Merrin for the following metrics:

- Flow Data
- Water Quality Data (SRP)
- Rainfall Data
- Soil Moisture and Temperature Probe Data

The LTVCA will continue to work with Merrin to collect and assemble this data. Merrin will be using these datasets to perform the BMP verification analysis to determine the effectiveness of NT-Cover Crop system at retaining agriculturally sourced phosphorus on a Brookston Clay soil. Once assembled, the datasets will be sent to the GLASI modelling team.

### **GLASI PSP - Land Use Data Collection**

On June 21<sup>st</sup> the LTVCA performed roadside data collection surveys throughout the GLASI Jeannette’s Creek PSP area for the following variables:

- Post Planting – Residue Cover % - 2017
- Post Planting – Tillage Practices - 2017
- Crop Inventory – 2017

Once assembled, this information will be transferred to the modellers.

### **GLASI PSP - Land Activities Surveys**

The LTVCA has begun the process of working with participating farmers and CCAs to complete the land activities survey. We have completed surveys for 10 of the 24 field parcels that have implemented a BMP through the GLASI Jeannette’s Creek PSP. Now that the growing season has begun, we anticipate that our progress on completing these surveys will regress. The remainder of the surveys will be completed with farmers when timing is convenient. We would expect to complete the remaining surveys in November and December of 2017. However, we will conduct them before this time if possible.

### ***Program Promotional Activities***

#### **Thames River Phosphorus Reduction Collaborative Bus Tour**

On June 27<sup>th</sup>, LTVCA staff organized and held the Thames River Phosphorus Reduction Collaborative (TRPRC) Bus Tour event. The TRPRC is a multi-stakeholder group that has formed to address the phosphorus loading issue in the Thames River basin. For more information on the TRPRC, click on the following link: <https://www.thamesriverprc.com/about-us>.

The LTVCA toured the TRPRC steering committee to various restoration sites in the Rondeau Bay subwatershed to illustrate natural heritage solutions that can be implemented on farm to reduce agriculturally sourced phosphorus loads. Furthermore, the LTVCA toured the event attendees through the GLASI Jeannette's Creek PSP study area to provide the group with an example of how farmers and Conservation Authorities can work together to implement agricultural BMPs and perform research to verify their effectiveness.

The event involved a stop at the Dauphin Pump and Monitoring Station to illustrate how the LTVCA is monitoring these unique drainage systems (*See Figure #1*). Roughly 35 people attended the event. The event also received significant media attention, with numerous articles published in local newspapers and a cable TV story released by CTV London.



Greg Van Every speaking at the Pegg Wetland Complex (Left) in Rondeau Bay. Colin Little speaking at the Dauphin Pump Station about the GLASI Jeannette's Creek PSP (Right).

### OSCIA Executive Outreach Tour 2017

On July 6<sup>th</sup>, the LTVCA hosted the OSCIA Executive Outreach Tour in partnership with St. Clair Regional Crop Association. The tour provided attendees with the opportunity to see how GLASI funded projects are being implemented throughout Lower Thames Valley watershed. Approximately 20 people attended the tour. It involved a stop at Smyth Farms to see how they used GLASI funding to make equipment modifications that have allowed them to apply cover crops and to adopt a strip-tillage fertility program.

Furthermore, the LTVCA toured the group throughout the GLASI Jeannette's Creek PSP study area. This included stops at the Edge of Field BMP verification research site, Steve Gleeson's field, and the Deary Pump Station. Colin Elgie (Thompsons CCA) and Steve Gleeson discussed how they utilized funding from the cost-share program to implement a 5 year crop and field nutrient management plan, which allowed Steve to perform intensive zone soil sampling and create variable rate prescriptions for fertilizer applications. The LTVCA Agricultural Program Coordinator and Water Quality Specialist presented at the Deary Pump Station and provided examples of how the LTVCA is collecting flow and water quality data to calculate nutrient loads for the regions pump schemes.



Colin Elgie (CCA) and Steve Gleeson addressing the OSCIA Executive Outreach Tour regarding Steve Gleeson's 5 year Crop and Nutrient Management Plan at the Deary Pump House.

## 7.5 Community Relations

### 7.5.1) 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 and Conservation Ontario.

Seven media releases were written/distributed between mid-June and August 4, 2017 (see attached)

- \$10,948 will help a rebuild! Ska-Nah-Doht Village Receives Canada 150 Funding – June 9, 2017
- Twilight Tuesdays – June 26, 2017
- “Tour of a Lifetime” The 2017 Canadian Coast to Coast Classic Vehicle Tour on display at Chatham-Kent Children’s Safety Village in the C.M. Wilson Conservation Area – June 12 and July 4, 2017
- Artifact Day – July 6, 2017
- LTVCA Supports #TD Tree Days – July 27, 2017
- Guide to Shoreline Landowners – Released to target audiences - August 1, 2017
- Over \$50,000 Special Funding Hires Summer Youth at LTVCA – August 3, 2017

All 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.



A Member of Conservation Ontario

**Media Release**  
For Immediate Release  
June 9, 2017

**\$10,948 will help a rebuild!**  
**Ska-Nah-Doht Village Receives Canada 150 Funding**



**Strathroy-Carleton** – Today staff attended an important infrastructure announcement that will benefit our community, held at the Fanshawe Pioneer Village's Trillium Community Gallery in London. MP Peter Fragiskatos (London North Centre), on behalf of the Honourable Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development and Minister responsible for FedDevOntario, today announced various regional community infrastructure projects that will receive funding. As well, MP Irene Mathysen, London-Fanshawe and Deb Matthews, MPP London North Centre brought greetings and congratulations to the many organizations represented at the function. (see formal media release attached).

Locally, the Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum, at Longwoods Road Conservation Area received \$10,948 for Village improvements. Through the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program Intake Two, funds will assist the hiring of longhouse builders, purchase of materials for the build, a plaque and items for a celebration including special guests and entertainment. An official public opening will be held in celebration of Canada 150 and the results of the Heritage Build Project on Sunday, October 1, 2017. The celebration will feature the unveiling the new longhouse and plaque which will have a history of the site and recognition of our Community Partners.

**Background:**  
The Heritage Build Project 2016-2017 will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> full rebuild of the Ska-Nah-Doht Village in its long history. The village, owned and operated by the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority, was officially opened in 1973 and was built to support local schools in presenting the history of the First Nations people. To bring the past to life, curriculum based programs have been offered for over 40 years. The work on the village for this project includes the generous support of other Community Partners including GreenLane Community Fund donating \$20,000 matched by the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation's \$20,000 donation.

*"LTVCA acknowledges the financial support of our 10 watershed member municipalities, our many granting partners and dedicated volunteers."*

**For Further Information Contact:**  
Karen Mattila – Curator  
Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum  
Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority  
519-264-2420  
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A Member of Conservation Ontario

**Media Release**  
For Immediate Release  
June 26, 2017

*"Experience Longwoods and Ska-Nah-Doht Village at Dusk!"*  
**Twilight Tuesdays**



**Mount Brydges** – There's something to do on Tuesday evenings all summer long at Longwoods Road Conservation Area and Ska-Nah-Doht Village! Come on out for **"Twilight Tuesdays"**!

Bring the entire family, meet the staff at the Resource Centre and the evening takes off from there! **That's every Tuesday beginning July 4<sup>th</sup> to August 22<sup>nd</sup>**

The activities will start at 7:30 p.m. and wrap up at around 9:30 p.m., rain or shine!

**Admission is \$8/vehicle, coin or credit card only at the entrance gatehouse pay and display machine.**

We recommend you dress comfortably for the outdoors, wear insect repellent and bring a re-fillable water bottle. Please leave your pets at home.

See the Museum and Resource Centre in a whole new light at dusk. Then we will start down the trail with a hike about forest/medicinal plants. At Ska-Nah-Doht Village we will share legends and stories by fire light in the longhouse. Join in with campfire songs and on the way back listen for forest night sounds!

**Come once - it will be fun! Join us again - it will be even better! Never the same tour twice!**

Longwoods Road Conservation Area and Ska-Nah-Doht Village are located 6.5 km west of Delaware at 8348 Longwoods Road, Mount Brydges. Just 30 minutes west of London, or 1 hour east of Chatham.

[Check our Facebook page for last minute updates!](#)

**For Further Information Contact:**  
Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority  
519-264-2420  
[info@ltvca.ca](mailto:info@ltvca.ca) [www.ltvca.ca](http://www.ltvca.ca)



To download a Guide to Conservation Areas in Ontario please visit <http://www.ontarioconservationareas.ca/>

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**Lower Thames Conservation**  
for a balanced and healthy watershed  
A Member of Conservation Ontario

**Media Release**  
For Immediate Release  
July 4, 2017

**"Tour of a Lifetime"**  
**The 2017 Canadian Coast to Coast Classic Vehicle Tour on display at Chatham-Kent Children's Safety Village in the C.M. Wilson Conservation Area**




**Chatham-Kent Children's Safety Village, Thursday, July 27 5pm-8pm:**

The Chatham-Kent Children's Safety Village and C.M. Wilson Conservation Area are thrilled to announce the 2017 Canadian Coast to Coast Classic Vehicle Tour is stopping for 1 night only in Chatham-Kent. Experience a special showing of these classic vehicles as they celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> year while Canada celebrates its 150<sup>th</sup>. This will be a FREE public event.

This is a "trip of a lifetime" for coasters says Jerry Tremblay, Canadian Coasters member from Chatham-Kent who travelled with his wife early June to meet with the Coasters in B.C. to begin the journey.

Classic vehicles are driven all the way from the West Coast to the East Coast. They will rest for the night at C.M. Wilson Conservation Area and proudly display their vehicles for the general public to view from 5pm-8pm on Thursday, July 27<sup>th</sup> in the Chatham-Kent Children's Safety Village "Village". Come help us celebrate the Canadian Coaster 50<sup>th</sup> Tour and Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration together and show them some "southern hospitality" from Chatham-Kent.

Vendors will be available on site to purchase food and souvenir items to commemorate the day.

**Directions**  
As of April 18<sup>th</sup> the Hwy 40 overpass will be out of commission, being demolished with a new overpass rebuilt in its place. C.M. Wilson Conservation Area is located at 21799 Fargo Road just 8.5 km south of Chatham. Here are the alternate directions while construction is underway:  
To get to the CM Wilson Conservation Area from the 401, take the Bloomfield exit and head south on Bloomfield Road. Turn left onto 8<sup>th</sup> Line (Eighth Line). When you get to the stop sign, turn right onto Charing Cross Road and head south. Turn left onto Horton Line, then left onto Fargo Road just before the railway tracks. Go to the end of Fargo Road and CM Wilson Conservation Area is on the right hand side.

100 Thames Street, Chatham, ON N7L2Y8 • www.ltvca.ca  
Phone: 519-354-7310 • Fax: 519-352-3435 • E-mail: admin@ltvca.ca

**History about the Canadian Coasters**  
"Early in 1966 a group from Ontario, the Historical Automobile Club of Canada (HASC) started to promote the idea to have an Antique Car Tour that traveled across Canada. Canada's Centennial was coming up in 1967 and what better way to promote the old car hobby and the Centennial. Most known antique car clubs in Canada were contacted and invited to take part. The tour started in Victoria, BC and traveled to St. John's Newfoundland. Nine cars covered the total distance under their own power. This tour was hosted by various clubs as it passed through their areas. Hobbyists joined the tour where they wanted and stayed on tour as long as their holidays allowed. There were 125 official registrations. This tour unified the car clubs coast to coast and was a big step to the formation of a Canadian Chartered Organization."

**C.M. Wilson Conservation Area**  
"Step into Nature!" The Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority owns and operates this 30 ha property. For nature lovers, the Carolinian forest and wetlands abound with birds and wildlife. A man-made lake offers fishing for bass, pike, catfish and bluegill and a place to put in your canoe or windsurf. Picnic areas, two adventure playgrounds and a campground provide fun for the whole family! Rent a canoe or bicycle to explore the wonders of the lake and park grounds. A volleyball court is also available!

**Chatham-Kent Children's Safety Village**  
"Injuries are the leading cause of death for people within the ages of 1 and 44". The Chatham-Kent Children's Safety Village is a registered charity focused on saving the lives of children through injury prevention and interactive programs.

The Chatham-Kent Children's Safety Village has been recognized around the world for its Safety Endeavours. The Chatham-Kent Children's Safety Village was built on the need to raise our children in an environment of safety concentrating on preventable injuries and health issues.

Injury prevention and life saving programs include a specific learning module "Tell Me, Show Me, Involve Me" in direct partnership with local Police, Fire, Paramedics, Utility Companies, Farm Professionals, Conservation Authorities and Health Professionals agree that children/everyone retain information better when they act out the learning process.

The miniature village encompasses regulation sized streets and sidewalks and miniature replicas of local businesses, traffic lights into a real life miniature Chatham-Kent – a must to see.

Since 2006, over 30,000 local children have been trained to predict and prevent deaths, injuries and disabilities. In 2015 expanded programs now include adults, seniors, specialty groups, camps and additional grades for students. Since 2009 - 20 local children in Chatham-Kent have been awarded and recognized at our annual Sparky, Elmer & Andy Safety Awards Banquet for their acts of heroism in saving lives, and contributing to a safer community.

The mission of the Chatham-Kent Children's Safety Village is to create a safety minded, healthy community by reducing preventable injuries and deaths through specialized programming and camps.

If you have any questions please feel free to call us at 519-360-1270. Hope to see you there!

"LTVCA acknowledges the financial support of our 10 watershed member municipalities, our many granting partners and dedicated volunteers."

**For Further Information Contact:**  
Barb Lovell  
Chatham-Kent Children's Safety Village  
Phone 519-360-1270  
barblovell@hotmail.ca

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**Lower Thames Conservation**  
for a balanced and healthy watershed  
A Member of Conservation Ontario

**Media Release**  
For Immediate Release  
July 6, 2017

**"Spend a Day in the Park, Step into the Past"**  
**Artifact Day with Ska-Nah-Dohd Village and the OAS**



**Mount Brydges** – Dust off your shoe box of treasures from the past and bring them out for Artifact Day on Sunday, July 16 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The staff of Ska-Nah-Dohd Village and Museum will be joined by the members of the Ontario Archaeological Society to help identify your artifacts. Enjoy demonstrations by North American Champion Flint Knappers!

Try your hand at making your own treasure. Get ready to challenge your friends and family at some traditional Native games! Test your skills as a hunter with atlatl target throwing. Park admission is at the Pay and Display machine at the entrance. Coin or credit card only, the rates are \$4 per vehicle for 1.5 hours, \$8 for 3.0 hours or stay the day for \$12.00.

Pack a picnic lunch so you can spend a day in the park with your family and walk through the nature trails. Be sure to stop by the Turtle Trail Gift Shop in the Resource Centre featuring local First Nations crafts and stained glass pieces. For your visiting pleasure, we recommend you consider bringing insect repellent as we are located in a natural woodland setting.

Ska-Nah-Dohd Village and Museum is located in the beautiful surroundings of Longwoods Road Conservation Area, 8346 Longwoods Road (Middlesex County Rd. 2) just south of Mount Brydges, 6.5 km west of Delaware and 10 km east of Melbourne. Longwoods Road Conservation Area and Ska-Nah-Dohd Village and Museum are owned and operated by the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority.

"LTVCA acknowledges the financial support of our 10 watershed member municipalities, our many granting partners and dedicated volunteers"

**For further information contact:**  
Karen Mattila – Curator Ska-Nah-Dohd Village and Museum  
Tel: 519-264-2420  
Email: Karen.Mattila@ltvca.ca  
www.ltvca.ca

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**Lower Thames Conservation**  
for a balanced and healthy watershed  
A Member of Conservation Ontario

**Media Release**  
For Immediate Release  
July 27, 2017

**Get ready to green where you live.**  
Help plant trees in over 100 green spaces across Canada.



**Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority (LTVCA) Supports #TDTreeDays!**

Blenheim - The LTVCA is working with TD Friends of the Environment Foundation to host a TD Tree Days event this fall at C.M. Wilson Conservation Area, near Blenheim in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent on **September 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Join us for a planting in #C.M. Wilson Conservation Area. Register today at [tdtreedays.com](http://tdtreedays.com). #TDCommonGround.

In recognition of Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday, TD began the #TDCommonGround Project to help create a legacy of green spaces to bring people together. TD Tree Days is helping to create this legacy, as TD's flagship volunteer and urban greening program that brings people together and provides the opportunity to help build healthy & vibrant communities.

Since the launch of TD Tree Days in 2010, over 285,000 native trees and shrubs in communities have been planted across Canada. This fall, the 200,000<sup>th</sup> tree will be planted, with thousands of volunteers coming together to further enhance over 150 green spaces. TD Tree Days is a program of TD Friends of the Environment Foundation (TD FEF), which provides funding to help sustain an incredible array of grassroots environmental programs across Canada.




Since 1990, TD FEF has supported over 25,000 projects with over \$82 million in funding, from outdoor classrooms and environmental education programs to pollinator and community gardens. Over 80 local community organizations, including conservation authorities, municipalities and indigenous communities support TD Tree Days with technical expertise, to ensure that the right tree is properly planted in the right place.

The LTVCA is excited to see everyone come together to create a lasting legacy in over 100 green spaces across Canada. For more information about TD Tree Days, TD Friends of the Environment Foundation and the TD Common Ground Project can be found here: <https://www.tdtreedays.com/en-ca/page-9369>

Greg VanVeen – Environmental Project Coordinator  
Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority  
100 Thames Street, Chatham, On  
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519-354-7310 ext. 229

"LTVCA recognizes the financial support of our 10 watershed member municipalities, our many granting partners and dedicated volunteers"

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[illegible]

- 10 years of birding are essential
- Pioneered backlist
- the structure of the book
- Repetitive, or double-breasted
- Having a more structured, book-specific name - there was a lot of discussion of why not, or a full-on war story also
- A full-on war story
- Being the same as the other book
- world's, then there were several different species of fish
- currently of interest

[illegible]

Lower Tarrant Valley  
Conservation Authority  
100 T. James Street  
Ft. Worth, TX 76104  
Phone: 817-874-2266  
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Lower Thames  
Conservation  
The environment and society connected

[illegible]

- Groundwater flowing through the soil layers and dissolving the rock base
- Slope erosion causing material to slide down the slope or forming bench marks
- Down cutting of the land is a risk
- Wind erosion of dunes or any vegetation has been removed

The erosion is difficult to control, but damage may be mitigated by following Sustainable Planning Team Reports. These recommendations include how to best maintain structures to avoid erosion, stabilizing it with a bit of landscaping and the surrounding all being.

[illegible]

Clayton's garden is a beautiful example of how to use plastic sheeting to protect your plants.

**London Thames Valley**  
Corporation Authority  
0181 261-7310 www.thamesvalley.ac.uk

**Municipality of Chatham-Kent**  
519-436-1106 www.chathamkent.ca

**Municipality of Owen Sound**  
219-723-2224 www.owensound.ca

**Town of Leamington**  
519-776-1100 www.leamington.ca

**Municipality of Leamington**  
519-532-5757 www.leamington.ca

**City of London**  
519-501-2429 www.cityoflondon.ca

**Municipality of Welland County**  
905-662-1100 www.wellandcounty.ca

**Municipality of Southwestern Middlesex**  
519-337-1100 www.southwesternmiddlesex.ca

**Township of Southwell**  
216-759-2010 www.southwell.ca

**Municipality of Shallowford-Canning**  
519-455-1100 www.shallowford-canning.ca

**Municipality of West Egan**  
519-795-2920 www.westegan.ca



**Chatham / Mount Brydges** - With the generous financial assistance of Federal and Provincial government grants and community partnerships, 12 young people have been hired to gain valuable work experience at the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority (LTVCA) offices.



Katie Gillespie

A grant from **Goodwill Career Focus** provided \$8,434 to hire Taylor Quenneville (from Tibbony) as a tree planter for eight weeks and Katie Gillespie (from Blenheim) as an administrative assistant/tree planter/conservation area gatehouse attendant on a 12 week placement.

The provincial **Summer Experience Program** through the **Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry** subsidized wages up to **\$6,194** for two students to work four months at our Administration Office in Chatham: **Alyna Vanderburg** (from Biehler) assists staff with updates to the Flood Contingency Plan, compiling an inventory of flood control structures and surveying flood proofing elevations. **Nathan Jossie** (from Peterborough) helps out with GIS mapping and IT requests at the same office.



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8488 • J. Neurosci., November 11, 2009 • 29(45):8482–8490

The federal **Canada Summer Jobs** program provided two grants to the LTVC. The first funding was for the Chatham area. An eight week grant of **\$2,736** allowed for the hiring of a Land Stewardship Assistant. **Brook Daugherty** (from Wallaceburg) worked in this capacity - tree planting, wetland monitoring and as well as engaged in naturalizing projects. **T. Lema** from Plympton-Wyoming was hired for eight weeks as an Environmental Planning and Policy Assistant on a **\$2,736** grant. She updated Planning and Regulations Policies. A second grant of **\$9,480** hired two students to work at Longwoods Road Conservation Area/ Ska-Nah-Dot Village and Museum, just outside of Mount Brydges. One student, **Leanne Drostler** (from Parisville) was hired for 12 weeks.

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as a Community Outreach Coordinator and the second student, Robert Clark (from Delaware) received eight weeks of employment as a Community Outreach Assistant. These two people help with visitor programs and take displays to community events.



TJL:CM



Bob Clark and Lesanne Doustov

Through an eight month grant of **\$18,480** from the **Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change**, two people have been hired for two - four month periods as **Water Resource Technicians** in Chatham. Earlier this year, **Darren Jacobs** from Delaware Nation (at Moraviantown), and currently **Alex Tokarczyk** (from Leamington) have assisted staff with water quality sampling sites for the Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network, GLASI and Rondeau Bay watershed.



**Owner's note:**



**Abstract** The purpose of this study was to determine the effect of a 12-week, low-intensity, supervised walking program on the physical and psychological health of sedentary, middle-aged women. The study was a randomized, controlled trial. The subjects were 40 sedentary, middle-aged women who were randomly assigned to either a supervised walking program or a control group. The walking program consisted of 12 weeks of supervised walking, 3 times per week, for 30 minutes per session. The control group consisted of 20 women who did not participate in the walking program. The subjects were assessed at baseline and at 12 weeks. The walking program had a significant positive effect on the physical and psychological health of the subjects. The walking program significantly improved the subjects' physical health, as measured by the 6-minute walk test, and their psychological health, as measured by the Beck Depression Inventory and the State-Trait Anxiety Inventory. The walking program also significantly improved the subjects' quality of life, as measured by the SF-36. The walking program was well tolerated and had no adverse effects. The results of this study suggest that a supervised walking program can be an effective intervention for improving the physical and psychological health of sedentary, middle-aged women.

Last but not least, **The Heritage Build Project 2016-2017 - Phase 2** is well underway at the Ska-Nah-Doht Village at Longwoods Road Conservation Area near Mount Brydges. [Vance Stark](#) (from London) and [Roland Pheasant](#) (from Delaware) have been hired for 8 weeks each as the builders for the new longhouse. They will continue work on the palisade maze and create handouts on items for activity areas in the village. This project is funded by the LTVCA and Ska-Nah-Doht Fund along with community partners [GreenLane Community Trust](#), [LTVCA Foundation](#) and [Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program](#).



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**Abstract**

In addition to these grants, several of the above positions and other summer contract jobs have been subsidized or funded through the LTVCA's operating budget, supported in part by our 10 member municipalities. These include gatehouse and security staff at the C. M. Wilson Conservation Area and tree planters who have greatly assisted park operations and watershed land stewardship programs.

*\*LTYCA acknowledges the financial support of our 10 watershed member municipalities, our many creation partners and dedicated volunteers.\**

**For Further Information Contact:**  
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### **7.5.2) Directors' Bus Tour**

On June 15<sup>th</sup> LTVCA Directors and staff and watershed partners were treated to a bus tour of projects in the western half of the watershed, followed by a barbeque dinner at the C.M. Wilson Conservation Area barn pavilion. The Directors' Board meeting followed the dinner. Departing from C.M. Wilson Conservation Area, the tour passed McGeachy Pond, Erie Beach, Port Crew, and the Ward Property, Lake Erie shoreline in the Essex Region Conservation Authority, Two Creeks Conservation Area, Lighthouse Conservation Area, and Jeannettes Creek and back to C.M. Wilson Conservation Area. Topics of interest included conservation area features and programs, invasive species control, Lake Erie shoreline flooding and erosion issues, tree planting, restoration sites, community partnerships, planning and regulations and development pressures. Here are some pictures from the event.



### **7.5.3) Displays and Exhibits**

Displays and Exhibits are created to update programs and information for the public.

- The 2018 International Plowing Match will be held September 18-22, in Pain Court, Chatham-Kent. The LTVCA, St. Clair Region and Essex Region Conservation Authorities will be creating a tent exhibit around the theme "what the CA's are doing to protect the Great Lakes". This theme can incorporate components of phosphorus reduction, wetlands, stewardship/BMPS etc. The tent will also incorporate components of the Children's Water Festival which will not be held as a stand-alone festival in 2018 due to obvious conflicts of time and resources.

#### **7.5.4) 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 2017. 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 will be presented for Board Approval at the October Directors' meeting.

#### **7.5.5) Presentations**

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

#### **7.5.6) Committees and Meetings**

Staff attend meetings of the Thames-Sydenham and Region Source Protection Region's communications team as they develop communication products. Staff also participate on planning committees, which meet regularly for the Children's Water Festival – Chatham-Kent and Lambton, St. Thomas/Elgin and the Communications Subcommittee for the Thames River Clearwater Revival.

#### **7.5.7) 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 relating to the watershed are posted. Photos and video clips of programs and projects are taken regularly.

#### **7.5.8) Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation**

At the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation Directors' Annual General Meeting on May 9, Directors agreed to fund up to \$10,000 towards the Longwoods Visioning project if the LTVCA agreed to match with \$10,000 in real dollars (not in-kind), if the London Community Foundation (LCF) funding for the 2017 Longwoods Visioning does not come through. Based on the outcomes of a Longwoods 'visioning' exercise in 2017, the Foundation plans to develop an application to the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) for early 2018 requesting funds to develop a feasibility study and 5-10 year strategic plan for Longwoods Road Conservation Area and Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum - 40+ year old building infrastructures are in need of restoration/repair or replacement and also the accessibility requires upgrading. The Conservation Authority is not eligible to apply to Trillium; however the Foundation is an eligible applicant.

Staff met on July 14 with Sheila Simpson of Sheila Simpson & Associates - Facilitation, Capacity Building, and Community Development. She was contracted as the project manager/facilitator for the Longwoods Visioning project and began work immediately. On July 20<sup>th</sup> we had a conference call with Lori Runciman from the London Community Foundation regarding the status of the LCF application. It was recommended that we rework our application budget down to \$10,000 and resubmit to LCF. Sheila forwarded a revised budget and work plan which was well received. The LCF Grants Review Committee meets on August 8<sup>th</sup>. We will know by the August 24<sup>th</sup> LTVCA Board meeting, whether or not we were successful in our request for \$10,000. At 3 pm on August 24<sup>th</sup>, Sheila will facilitate a meeting between the LTVCA Directors, the Ska-Nah-Doht Advisory Committee, and the LTVC Foundation Directors to see what vision they have for Longwoods over the next 40 years. Invitations to this meeting were emailed on August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **7.5.9) Publications**

Community Relations staff assist Conservation Authority staff with publications as needed. Publications are posted on our website for downloading. A new **Guide to Shoreline Landowners** was reviewed and uploaded to our website, as well as emailed to our target audiences on August 1.

### **7.5.10) Applications**

Staff apply for project funding as grants become available.

### **7.5.10) Courses and Certifications**

Staff have been taking courses to comply with the recent Canadian Anti-Spam Legislation.

### **7.6.12) 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!

- **Longwoods Nature Trail Repair Project** - Staff have connected with a tech teacher at Strathroy District Collegiate Institute to see if his technology students could become involved in a boardwalk /bridge construction project for the Longwoods Road Conservation Area.

One of our trails at Longwoods that overlooks a Provincially Significant Wetland and a favourite pathway for visitors has a couple of small bridges that span ravine areas on the trail. This trail has been closed to the public for over a year now because our Health and Safety Committee recommended the bridges be removed due to safety issues.

This summer the poison ivy along this closed section of the trail was sprayed on June 28<sup>th</sup> as a first step in this project's management plan. Then over the winter months the dead ash trees will be felled in order to provide a safe working environment for any volunteers and or staff in the spring of 2018.



## 7.6) Conservation Authority Education

### 7.6.1) Conservation Youth Group Workshops

### 7.6.2) Conservation Field Trips for Students

### 7.6.3) Conservation Classroom Programs and Outreach

The stats for 7.6.1-7.6.3 will be updated for the October meeting.

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

Funding is in and we are gearing up for this fall's water festival at C.M. Wilson Conservation Area. It will take place October 3-5. Don Hector, the Festival's Coordinator is a volunteer, and he has done tremendous work once again to pull this event together! Staff will be conducting activity centre inventory soon. New activities are being developed to incorporate more messaging around the health of the Great Lakes.

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

### 7.6.6) Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum Group Workshops

The stats for 7.6.5 and 7.6.6 will be updated for the October meeting.

### 7.6.7) Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum Activates

The school year wrapped on a high note with student numbers up and gift shop sales also up from 2016. We had classes right to the bitter end, June 27<sup>th</sup>.

Rose Nicholas, Village Education Technician took the Turtle Trail gift shop on the road to the Antler River Kids Pow Wow in June then into London in July for Canada Day in Harris Park and Sunfest. All these venues not only increased our visibility in the community but increased sales! It is hard to keep up with the demands on inventory but we called in student volunteers and CSJ summer staff to assist. The student volunteers get to count their time towards high school community hours.



Summer staff hired through a Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) grant has taken to the road to promote Longwoods/LTVCA programs, summer events and the upcoming Canada 150 celebrations at the "Tastes of Fall" event. Leanne Doxtator is the Community Outreach Coordinator scheduling participating in community events, designing the poster and invites for the Taste of Fall event in October. She and Community Outreach Assistant, Rob Clark will be travelling to watershed libraries in August to present "Sky Woman – a Creation Story". This play was created by Derekica Snake for the Chatham-Kent Water Festival and delivers a key LTVCA environmental message through Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge - storytelling.



The *Heritage Build Project - Phase 2* is well underway this summer. Two Heritage Build Labourers have been hired for 8 weeks. Vance Stark and Rolland Pheasant are bringing their many talents and enthusiasm to keep the project on schedule. Assisting the full time staff with first preparing all

the central arches, the longhouse frame was up in 2 days! While waiting for the bark delivery, work continues on the palisade entrance began during Phase I last summer. Rob (CSJ) also lends a hand when needed and is researching and creating more hands-on features for the village. Visitors will begin to see what we are calling “vignettes of everyday life” including food processing activity areas with mortars, pestles and corn crib next to fishing traps and nets with stone sinkers. All this will hopefully create the feeling like someone is actually working in the village.



Leeanne and Rob have also been assisting at *Twilight Tuesdays* which is seeing a dramatic increase in participants since its inception in 2015. What started with 2-3 small families on the first July evening of guided hikes/tours of the village, is now attracting 30 - 50+ plus! We attribute this phenomenon to a combination of increased use of our Facebook page and return customers. What started as a campy campfire sing-a-long has become one of the anticipated features of the night. Jerry De Zwart, Conservation Education Technician is a big hit with his guitar skills and owl calling.

## 7.7) Wheatley Two Creeks Association

### WHEATLEY TWO CREEKS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of regular meeting held July 6th 2017 at Wheatley Legion

**Attendance:** Rick & Forest Taves, Bruce & Marjorie Jackson, Larry McDonald, Joe Pinsonneault, Heather Vannieuwenburg, Dale Whiddon, Ron Haley, Mike Diesbourg, Lorna Bell, Pauline Sample, Linda Pearce, David & Sharon Light.

**Agenda:** With the amendment that Board members also need to sign a work release waiver form the agenda was accepted as outlined ( Carried ).

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

**Memorial Groves:** Linda resigned her position looking after the Groves business, Joe volunteered to take her position. A proposal was made to adopt any tree in the park instead of increasing the size of the groves. A minimum \$75.00 perpetual care donation will need to be made as was the case in the Groves, a post and plaque will be installed near the adopted tree. Motioned by Dale sec. by Larry.

**Prop. & Equip.:** A steel roof matching the Large Pavillion roof will be installed over the existing roof on the Small Pavillion. Clear plastic corrugated panels are needed to replace the roof on the Pit toilets. The trails have been cleared and widened and most the dangerous trees have been taken care of. Rick proposed removing some of the Locust trees on the hill in front of the stage to improve sight lines, a decision is pending. A proposal to pour 12' x 20' concrete dance pad near the stage will not be proceeded with.

**Concerts:** The unwritten rule stating that no musical act will perform more than 2 years in a row was proposed to be eliminated. We will need to bring in approximately \$6100.00 for the remainder of the concert season not counting the Chatham-Kent Partnership Grant to break even for the year. Drunkenness, rowdy behaviour and smoking in prohibited areas will be dealt with according to the situation.

**Financial Reports:** The Account Balance as of May 31st 2017 was \$27,285.48, the Account Balance as of June 30th 2017 was \$30,942.06. Balances were moved by Joe, sec. by Larry.

**Correspondence:** Marj. will send a Thankyou note to the Taylor Fish Company for their \$500.00 donation.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** The Licensed Agreement between Two Creeks and the L.T.V.C.A. has been approved. Lorna motioned, Phil seconded.

**Adjournment:** Joe motioned for adjournment at 8:10pm

Phil Humphries, Secretary

## 7.8) GMs Report

Much space has been devoted in this agenda to information reports on the myriad of activities in which LTVCA staff have been engaged. The demand for our programs, services and facilities has never been greater and it is gratifying to see the positive impact this is having on our many communities, residents and visitors. With the continuing support of the Board members, member municipalities, partners and staff, the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority can look forward to a busy and productive future!

A search has been initiated for a successor to the General Manager, and interest to date has been strong. Applications are being accepted until August 31, after which time applications will be screened and selected applicants contacted for interviews. It is expected that these will be conducted by the Personnel & Finance/Executive Committee in mid to late September, enabling a recommendation to the Board at the October meeting.

The “visioning project” for Longwoods/Ska-Nah-Doht is underway under the guidance of Sheila Simpson who has been contracted to conduct the project. The participation of the Board prior to this meeting is greatly appreciated; and broader community engagement is already underway. The phase will set a solid foundation for a detailed examination of the potential for and direction of a redevelopment plan for the Museum and Village and the Resource Centre.

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

# 8. Correspondence

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## 8.1) Correspondence, University of Guelph, Ridgetown Campus



ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE  
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

June 26, 2017

Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority  
c/o Mr. Don Pearson  
100 Thames St  
Chatham, ON N7L 2Y8

Dear Mr. Pearson,

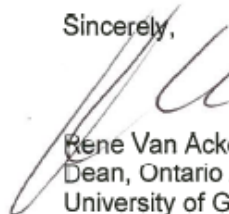
On behalf of the Ontario Agricultural College (OAC), I would like to thank the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority for its gift of \$500 designated to the *Ridgetown Academic Proficiency, Associate Diploma in Environmental Management Prize*. Your support is vital to our ability to offer excellent programs and conduct world-renowned research.

For over 140 years, OAC researchers have made local and global impact through their discoveries and knowledge translation. Your generous gift brings us one step closer to helping future leaders and mentors excel in their academic endeavors, free from the financial burden that often accompanies the pursuit of post-secondary education.

We can accomplish all that we do because of the continued generosity and trust shown by OAC supporters like you. Thank you for your gift to OAC and the University of Guelph.

Together we will continue to improve lives through leadership in improving the food we eat, strengthening agriculture, protecting our environment and enhancing our communities.

Sincerely,



Rene Van Acker  
Dean, Ontario Agricultural College  
University of Guelph

**RECEIVED**  
JUN 29 2017  
LOWER THAMES VALLEY  
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY  
DRA → 300



## 8.2) Correspondence, Conservation Ontario, Low Impact Development



July 13, 2017

Mr. John Antoszek, Engineer  
Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change  
Environmental Sciences and Standards Division  
Standards Development Branch, Water Standards  
40 St. Clair Avenue West Floor 9  
Toronto Ontario M4V1M2  
Transmitted by e-mail

Dear Mr. Antoszek:

**RE: Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) Low Impact Development  
Stormwater Management Guidance Manual EBR#012-9080**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the *Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Low Impact Development (LID) Stormwater Management (SWM) Guidance Manual* EBR # 012-9080. These comments are provided to you on behalf of the Province's 36 Conservation Authorities (CAs) who have significant expertise as watershed based organizations working with municipalities and other partners to support stormwater management at the local level in Ontario. These comments are not intended to limit consideration of comments shared individually by CAs on this consultation which is focused on a jurisdictional scan of international stormwater management requirements for controlling rainwater volumes and potential runoff targets for Ontario.

Conservation Ontario commends the Province for leading the development of this new MOECC LID Guidance Manual, positioning Ontario as a leader in SWM innovation, protecting our Great Lakes and water resources for future generations. Conservation Ontario and Conservation Authorities appreciate the opportunity to have been participating in the process with MOECC and other stakeholders at the Province's Stakeholder Review Group (SRG) Table to develop DRAFT Low Impact Development (LID) Stormwater Management Guidelines for Ontario.

In response to this current posting we would like to refer to the appended letter submitted to you in March 2017. This letter was endorsed by Conservation Ontario Council at our April 2017

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meeting. The letter focused on earlier draft chapters of the Guidance Manual: Runoff targets, Modelling Requirements and Climate Change. In that letter we have also offered suggestions for addressing challenges and opportunities that may arise in the public introduction of the draft guidelines and eventual implementation.

In addition, with appropriate human, capital and financial resources, CO and CAs are willing to provide additional expertise and guidance towards the development, communication and implementation of the guidance manual, including access to training, materials, and case studies.

Finally, CO is appreciative of the receptiveness of MOECC to comments which have been provided to date. The process has provided a platform for building consensus and engaging stakeholders across Ontario. We look forward to our continued active engagement at the SRG Table and to working with the Province, municipalities and other stakeholders towards the final LID SWM Guidance Manual and its implementation. If you have any questions about our submission please do not hesitate to contact me at ext. 224; [jrzadki@conservationontario.ca](mailto:jrzadki@conservationontario.ca)

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Rzadki', with a stylized, flowing script.

Jo-Anne Rzadki, MSc.  
Business Development and Partnerships  
CO SRG Representative

cc: Kim Gavine, General Manager, CO  
CO advisory group for the MOECC LID SWM Guide  
CA SRG members (Mike Walters (LSRCA) , Christine Zimmer (CVC), Sameer Dhalla (TRCA))  
Conservation Authorities



March 7, 2017  
Mr. John Antoszek,  
Pollution Control Engineering Advisor  
Water Standards, Standards Development Branch  
Ministry of Environment and Climate Change  
9th Flr, 40 St Clair Ave W, Toronto, ON M4V 1M2

Dear Mr. Antoszek:

**RE: Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) Low Impact Development Guidelines for Ontario**

Conservation Ontario and Conservation Authorities appreciate the opportunity to have been participating in the process with MOECC and other stakeholders to develop DRAFT Low Impact Development (LID) Stormwater Management Guidelines for Ontario. On February 15th, Conservation Ontario (CO), Lake Simcoe Region CA (LSRCA), Toronto Region CA (TRCA) and Credit Valley Conservation (CVC) representatives on the Provincial Stakeholder Review Group (SRG), as well as the Conservation Ontario SRG advisory group and other interested conservation authority staff met to discuss current draft chapters of the Guidance Manual: Runoff targets, Modelling Requirements and Climate Change. Anticipated challenges and opportunities that may arise in the public introduction of the draft guidelines and eventual implementation were also discussed.

During our discussion it was stated that a number of previous comments from SRG members have been adequately addressed. Also, the following recommendations and comments are being provided for consideration by yourself and the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change.

**Runoff Volume Control Target Chapter:**

- Taking a science based hierarchical approach is supported.
- Further guidance on how to apply the hierarchy is recommended. For example, it's important to first address treatment which should be achievable and then address filtration, then infiltration based on the water balance analysis
- There remains concern around application of LID under different site conditions, (eg. Clay soils) and therefore it is recommended that demonstration sites, ongoing monitoring, evaluation and training are required. This includes guidance to support

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maintenance of the features (see LID Manual Implementation/Operationalization below).

- There is a need to consider water balance at the site acknowledging that in some cases the risk of starving streams can't be ignored, hence site water balance in areas with healthy streams should consider surface runoff requirements.
- With respect to pre-development considerations (water balance should be undertaken at the pre and post-development conditions).
- Allow for flexibility for different options at sites with constraints.
- Further detail is required regarding how options can be applied.
- Cumulative impacts of growth need to be considered and where targets can't be achieved on site, mitigation through offsetting through quality control should be allowed.
- Examples and design concepts should be incorporated within the document and as part of roll out and implementation noted below.

### **Modelling Requirements**

The provision of guidelines for how to select and use models is supported, including a list of models which could be used for the design of LID Features.

### **Climate Change Chapter:**

- The knowledge and technology for addressing climate change is evolving continuously. While the incorporation of Climate Change considerations is welcome it is suggested this chapter be focused on communicating the risk based frameworks and the limitation of existing tools – e.g. IDF curves. It is suggested that the information on highlighting current approaches is included as an Appendix. It should be strongly noted that the examples being included in the Appendix are included as illustrative examples, since the research is not static, they should not be considered as permanent, long term or standard guidance and that practitioners should be monitoring for new climate change science and technology on an ongoing basis. Not doing this may risk the unintentional setting of a low design standard for adaptation in Ontario.
- In the example provided of a risk assessment framework, other frameworks such as the Public Infrastructure Engineering Vulnerability Committee (PIEVC) protocol of Engineers Canada, or the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI's) Building Adaptive & Resilient Communities (BARC) framework should also be mentioned, as they are currently being widely used in Ontario, and are of similar rigor.
- Finally, it is recommended there should be more information about climate adaptation and acknowledgement that LID is considered a climate change adaptation (and mitigation) technology.

### **Launch of Draft Guide and Implementation**

Members of the Provincial Stakeholder Review Group have not been presented with a draft of the Implementation chapter of the LID Guide. Conservation Ontario emphasizes that this will be an important chapter, especially for those who are not familiar with LID technologies at

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municipalities, and those who may be involved in planning, design, approvals, implementation and installation, monitoring and maintenance. This chapter should be released for public comment in conjunction with other chapters in the guide.

- A strategy for communications and implementation of the guide is necessary. This should include the rationale and history behind its development and how it should be integrated with the existing stormwater management manual in the short and long term. Additional components of implementation and communications should include:
  - Clear guidance on roles and responsibilities (eg. Municipalities, conservation authorities and the province) for planning, design, approvals, implementation and installation, monitoring and maintenance to respond to questions like:
    - Implementation of “Mandatory Hierarchy” and who will screen applications for exemptions first: municipalities, CAs or MOECC?
    - It is our understanding, based on current roles and responsibilities that most of the development applications will fall outside the CA’s jurisdictions. Is there a role for CAs who wish to offer technical expertise?
- With respect to potential approvals challenges that may arise with the implementation of the current draft of the LID Guide, while it may be the intent for LID to be used to meet water quality and erosion criteria, there may be potential challenges which perhaps CA and MOECC approvals staff can provide further clarification on based on past experiences with guidelines. Here are some examples of potential challenges:
  - The lack of essential design detail (e.g. minimum surface area of BMP, method of estimating drawdown time, etc.) that will lead to various design approaches.
  - Method for assessing components of water balance needs clarity. For example, currently the MOECC’s SWM Design Manual (2003) suggests annual water balance. Continuous models have been applied and it has been suggested that monthly water balance be applied.
  - Use of LIDs for quality and quantity controls:
    - Use of softer BMPs for credit such as top soil amendments, rain barrel, rain garden, etc.
    - Ownership of BMPs- public vs private, etc.
    - Operation and maintenance requirements, if any
- Conservation authorities want to draw upon experiences from some of the challenges of SWM pond implementation and maintenance. It is advised these challenges are not repeated with wide-scale application of LID. For example, lessons learned from SWM implementation recognize that municipalities lack standards for assuming a SWM pond, inspecting a pond and developing asset management plans for SWM ponds. As a result, many ponds are not performing to MOECC permit requirements(LSCRA study).

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- To ensure successful adoption and continued maintenance and performance throughout the lifetime of LID infrastructure it is recommended that the Province provide guidance and time for municipalities to roll out LID thoughtfully as opposed to wide-scale adoption which may not allow for adaptation and consensus building. Experience in watersheds like CVC, TRCA and LSRCA has observed that the implementation of LID requires policy, bylaw, standards, organizational structure, resources and budget changes to municipalities which takes time. Conservation Ontario recommends that MOECC approvals provide time for municipalities to undertake pilot or case studies, learn, build consensus and adapt. Failure to properly adopt LID could result in system failure similar to the failures experienced with SWM ponds. Measured, thoughtful implementation, long term monitoring and guidance on maintenance is required to ensure long-term performance.
- As LSRCA, CVC, TRCA are in the process of updating the LID SWM Planning and Design Guide, the following questions can be addressed:
  - Guidance on where timing of where LID needs to be considered in the plan of subdivision planning and design process.
  - How retrofits and private properties are to be incorporated.
  - How to consider implementation of these technologies within urban and rural communities, in addition to opportunities to integrate overland flooding and wastewater technologies and source protection plan policies.
 The update of this Planning and Design Guide will be incorporated as a WIKI web-based guide allowing for ongoing updates. Using this WIKI guide, municipalities will have access to the most up-to-date design guidance for LID implementation.
- Currently a number of information resources from CAs have been combined on the Sustainable Technologies Evaluation Program (STEP) website. Please see the following link: STEP Guidance: <http://www.sustainabletechnologies.ca/wp/publications/>
- STEP includes courses in LID Design, Construction, Inspection and Maintenance, Performance Monitoring, and Landscaping. These courses have been developed and delivered in several locations across the Province in addition to webinars which offer great potential forum for sharing experiences and is beneficial to the successful adoption of LID. All available training can be found at this link: <http://www.sustainabletechnologies.ca/wp/events/>
- Video resources are being used to reach a broader audience and enhance course content. CAs such as LSRCA, CVC, and TRCA, are collaborating to showcase their projects via video. An example of the work includes CVC's permeable pavement maintenance video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mnWVapXb8A0>. Additional CVC training video links: <https://www.youtube.com/user/CreditValleyCA> STEP/TRCA videos: <https://www.youtube.com/user/ChrisMooreTRCA>

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- Conferences such as the Toronto Region International Erosion Control Association (TRIECA) annual event for knowledge transfer is where CAs and other professionals can provide expertise on various construction, operation and maintenance guides and materials.

Finally, a number of the CO and CA staff who met on February 15th are willing to provide additional expertise and guidance towards the development, communications and implementation of the guide. If you have any questions about these comments and to arrange a discussion with you, please do not hesitate to contact myself at ext. 224; e-mail: [jrzadki@conservationontario.ca](mailto:jrzadki@conservationontario.ca).

Conservation Ontario appreciates the opportunity to be included in the process for developing the MOECC LID Stormwater Management Guide and we look forward to continuing to collaborate towards its timely completion and effective implementation.

Yours truly,



Jo-Anne Rzadki MSc.  
Business Development and Partnerships  
CO SRG member

cc: Kim Gavine, General Manager, Conservation Ontario  
CO advisory group for the MOECC LID SWM Guide  
CA SRG members (Mike Walters (LSRCA) , Christine Zimmer (CVC), Sameer Dhalla (TRCA))  
Conservation Ontario Council

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### 8.3) Correspondence, Conservation Ontario, Regulatory Proposal

June 28, 2017



Sanjay Coelho  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change  
Climate Change and Environmental Policy Division  
Land and Water Policy Branch  
40 St. Clair Ave West, Floor 10  
Toronto, Ontario M4V 1M2

Re: Conservation Ontario's Comments on the "Excess Soil Management Regulatory Proposal" (EBR # 013-0299)

Dear Mr. Coelho:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change's (MOECC) "Excess Soil Management Regulatory Proposal". Conservation Ontario (CO) is the network of Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities (CAs). These comments were endorsed for submission by Conservation Ontario Council at their June 26, 2017 meeting. In addition to providing these comments, Conservation Ontario is appreciative of MOECC including CA/CO staff members as part of the Excess Soil Engagement Group and Excess Soil Market Support Team.

CO is pleased to see the Province is moving forward to develop new policy tools aimed at strengthening the management and oversight of excess soil movement related activities. Conservation Ontario is supportive of the added emphasis on source site regulation and the designation of excess soil as a waste. The requirement to file Excess Soil Management Plans (ESMP) for producers and to identify receivers of fill (in most cases) is a welcome addition. The additional information about the responsibilities of a Qualified Person, particularly as it relates to potential conflicts of interest is helpful.

This letter will provide general comments on the proposal, as well as a detailed attached comments chart for your reference.

#### Local Implementation and the *Conservation Authorities Act*

It is noted that monitoring and compliance issues contributed greatly to the need for a policy framework on excess soil. Much of the proposal focuses on producing guidance materials for others to implement on an operational basis. It is observed that this framework is written for "compliers"; more should be done by the Province to ensure that compliance is taking place at the source site, through the development of ESMPs, and at the receiving site. Financial assurances from the source site owner/operator would be helpful in this regard. While the creation of this framework is appreciated, more emphasis on MOECC's proposed role in implementing and administering this regulatory package would be appreciated. As the proposal currently reads, it appears that the majority of implementation will be left to municipalities and CAs who may not have the range of tools or necessary resources to tackle these issues.

This regulatory proposal, in concert with amendments to the *Municipal Act* which allow municipalities to apply their site alteration by-laws throughout their municipalities, will represent a significant shift in how fill placement will be addressed locally. The Excess Soil Management Regulatory Proposal as presented, and if implemented locally using traditional mechanisms could undermine the goals of the Excess Soil Management Policy Framework and pose challenges to Conservation Authorities in meeting their responsibilities under the *Conservation Authorities Act*. These concerns include creating additional uncertainty in the regulatory roles and responsibilities of Conservation Authorities vis a vis municipalities and the Province, placing additional unfunded administrative burdens on CAs associated with administering MOECC's framework and therefore potentially requiring CAs to increase fees to cover the costs.

Conservation Ontario will be drafting guidance for Conservation Authorities in light of the new Excess Soil Management Regulatory Proposal (once finalized) to describe a role for Conservation Authorities under this new regime, which could be adapted locally. Under this new regime, the CA role is envisioned to include the following:

1. Integration with Municipal Approvals - Municipalities would have the lead for decision-making locally with regard to the placement and quality of fill. CAs would request that municipalities coordinate CA approvals with municipal site alteration bylaws. This would include requiring pre-consultation locally; prior to the issuance of a municipal site-alteration permit to ensure coordination between the two approvals.
2. Interests of the CAs within their jurisdiction -CAs would be involved through their regulatory responsibilities/ policy interests – including S. 28 permissions, natural hazard management, natural heritage concerns (through their municipal MOUs or watershed plans) and the local implementation of the Provincial Plans and associated policies
3. Water/Groundwater/Source Protection Concerns- CA involvement may include concerns related to natural hazards, storm water, watershed plans and source protection concerns, where CAs have the lead for implementation.
4. CAs as excess soil recipients – based on Board direction, CAs may operate as excess soil receivers. In this case, CAs would set expectations around soil quality that meets or exceeds Provincial standards.

The articulation of clear regulatory responsibilities, particularly as it relates to fill quality, is lacking within this framework. Under this new framework it makes the most sense that municipalities or the Province would have the lead for setting fill quality considerations, as their regulatory authority applies throughout their jurisdiction (as compared to CAs who have limited regulatory jurisdiction). This will help to address concerns related to duplication of effort and a lack of regulatory clarity. While some CAs have included fill quality considerations in their S. 28 permissions in the past, the legislative mechanisms to do so were not always clear. Moreover, compliance powers under the *Conservation Authorities Act* were not designed for the purpose of large-scale fill regulation. It should be noted that with the amendments to the *Municipal Act* municipalities may currently be in a difficult regulatory position, as they have additional regulatory powers, likely out-of-date site alteration by-laws and MOECC does not have their Excess Soil Management Regulatory Framework in place. Assistance with addressing excess soil issues in the interim by the Province will be essential until the necessary policy and legislative work is complete.



## Relationship to the *Clean Water Act*

The proposed regulatory framework should place a greater emphasis on, and integration with, the Source Water Protection Plans established under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*. The *Clean Water Act* is a significant piece of provincial legislation that strongly aligns with one of the main goals of the proposed framework: the protection of human health and the environment. If fill is proposed to be imported to a site within a vulnerable area, a risk assessment must be conducted. This must include screening for vulnerable areas delineated under the *Clean Water Act*, an evaluation of risks of contamination and depletion of sources of municipal drinking water, keeping in mind the requirements of local Source Protection Plans. The proposed policy framework has identified the need for stringent standards to assess the fill; these standards must also ensure the protection of sources of drinking water. The exercise of matching the source site and receiving site should include source water protection considerations such that both water quality and water quantity (supply) is not impacted. The proposed framework should also assess the risk of fill being transport pathways, in order to avoid an increase in vulnerability of the municipal drinking water source.

## Additional Areas of Consideration

### *Strengthening Regulation of the Receiving Sites*

This regulation should be more specific about where fill is not permitted, including areas of natural hazards, natural heritage and source protection drinking water vulnerable location. In Provincial Plan areas, the ESMP should conform to the site alteration provisions of that Plan.

### *Strengthening Compliance*

As noted previously, this regulatory package is written with the assumption that people will voluntarily comply. There are few enforcement details included. Of particular concern is that soil which is deposited in an area where a site-specific instrument exists, such as municipal by-law, the soil is no longer categorized as a waste, regardless of whether or not a permit was issued for the placement of that soil. This could leave municipalities or Conservation Authorities to deal with non-compliance from a soil quality perspective, in addition to addressing the non-compliance with the by-law/CA regulation.

### *Exemptions*

Conservation Ontario is not supportive of the proposed exemption from the creation of an ESMP for soil where the project area is on Crown land or away from a settlement area. This proposed exemption results in the majority of the Province not falling under this framework.

CO also recommends that the Province reconsider the exemption from preparing an ESMP for maintenance of stormwater management ponds (SWM), due to quality concerns with sediment. The ministry needs to provide clear direction that sediment in a stormwater management pond is to be treated as a waste under the general regulation under the *Environmental Protection Act*.

### *Excess Fill Material, Not Only Excess Soil*

CO suggests that the framework should also adequately address other materials that may not meet the definition of 'excess soil' but which may nevertheless be generated/moved from a source site. For example, it has been our experience that fill material often includes construction waste and by-products such as asphalt, concrete, composts, recycled aggregate products, shingles, and ashes. The MOECC must ensure the full scope of the framework includes all fill material.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed "Excess Soil Management Regulatory Proposal". Conservation Ontario looks forward to continuing to work with the Ministry as they complete this regulatory proposal. We appreciate the extension to the commenting period to allow for Conservation Ontario Council to consider this response. Please contact me directly at extension 226 should you wish to discuss this further.

Sincerely,



Leslie Rich, RPP  
Policy and Planning Liaison

1 attachment

c.c. Conservation Authority CAOs  
Cathie Brown, AMO  
Jennifer Keyes, MNRF

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## 8.4) Correspondence, Conservation Ontario, Lake Erie Action Plan



May 29, 2017

Ms. Sandra George  
Program Coordinator, Nutrients  
Great Lakes Management and Reporting Section  
Environment and Climate change Canada  
Via e-mail: [Sandra.George@canada.ca](mailto:Sandra.George@canada.ca); and  
[ec.plandactionnational-domesticactionplan.ec@canada.ca](mailto:ec.plandactionnational-domesticactionplan.ec@canada.ca)

Ms. Madhu Malhotra  
Manager, Ministry of the Environment and Climate change  
Climate change and Environmental Policy Division  
Land and Water Policy Branch  
Via e-mail: [Madhu.Malhotra@ontario.ca](mailto:Madhu.Malhotra@ontario.ca)

Re: Canada-Ontario Draft Action Plan – “Partnering in Phosphorus Control: Achieving Phosphorus Reductions in Lake Erie from Canadian Sources” (EBR # 012-9971) and Federal Posting: Let’s Talk Lake Erie [www.letstalklakeerie.ca](http://www.letstalklakeerie.ca))

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Canada-Ontario Draft Action Plan – *Partnering in Phosphorus Control: Achieving Phosphorus Reductions in Lake Erie from Canadian Sources* (Lake Erie Action Plan). These comments are provided to you on behalf of the Province’s 36 Conservation Authorities (CAs) who have significant expertise as watershed based organizations applying subwatershed approaches to deliver programs at the local level within Lake Erie and across the Great Lakes Basin. These comments are not intended to limit consideration of comments shared individually by CAs on this Canada and Ontario consultation. Conservation Ontario (CO) Council will be requested to endorse a letter at the June 26, 2017 meeting. The final endorsed letter will be provided to Canada and Ontario after that meeting.

Conservation Ontario is appreciative and committed to our ongoing engagement with the Province, Federal Government and other partners towards the finalization of the Canada-Ontario Lake Erie Action Plan by February, 2018. We are pleased to see that many key actions in the Draft Canada-Ontario Lake Erie Action Plan align with previous input provided by CO and individual CAs through our participation at:

1. The Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, Annex 4 (Nutrients) Binational Subcommittee Table and Task Teams (including work of the Targets and Objectives Task Team);
  2. Meetings with Conservation Ontario and Conservation Authority staff in the Lake Erie Basin;
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1

3. Consultations at the Lake Erie Nutrients Working Group Table and;
4. As a result of [Conservation Ontario's Comments](#) and individual Conservation Authorities' submissions in November 2016 on the Province of Ontario's EBR posting 012-8760 *Reducing Phosphorus to minimize Algal Blooms in Lake Erie*

CO and Lake Erie CAs are committed to continuing our local leadership and implementation role with the Province, Federal Government, municipal partners and all stakeholders to address the Phosphorus (P) challenge in Lake Erie. Conservation authorities are leaders in community based watershed management and Conservation Ontario is pleased with the acknowledgement of the need for watershed and nearshore based strategies and community based planning for reducing phosphorus.

Local source protection plans developed under the Clean Water Act (2006) should also be referred to for mandatory policies protecting municipal drinking water sources including Great Lakes intakes. Some of the Source Protection Plan policies address nutrient runoff in Protection areas around Drinking water sources.

Conservation Ontario also supports the need for continued research and it's critical that significant resources (human, financial and capital) be put towards development and implementation of those plans and strategies, including the best practices needed immediately to make any headway in meeting the 40% Phosphorus load reduction target (from 2008 levels) in the central and western basins of Ontario by 2025 (Part IV subsection 9 (2) of the Great Lakes Protection Act, 2015). This includes a focused effort to implement best practices on the land to keep phosphorus from reaching rivers and Lake Erie.

CO's submission and individual CAs' submissions in response to the Provincial and Federal postings will form the basis of further discussions and work to finalize the Action plan by February 2018. Our future actions are subject to funding and P load reduction will depend on the scale of work and available resources, local municipal and partner, and provincial and federal partner commitments. Conservation Ontario encourages long term, multi-year resource commitments with clear accountability for actions and timelines. CO and CA commitments will be based on annual workplan and budget processes approved by our Boards.

Conservation Ontario would like to reinforce previous messages that CAs are well positioned and ready to support by leveraging our expertise towards immediate action to reduce P loadings to Lake Erie now. CAs are locally based agencies that can quickly and effectively mobilize action with local stakeholders and sources of information for residents Please refer to [Conservation Ontario's submission](#) in response to EBR posting #012-8760 for details. This includes:

- Water quality and quantity issues monitoring and reporting,
- Watershed stewardship and conservation services program expansion and delivery,
- Point and non-point rural and urban stormwater management in addition to
- Other critical components of implementing an integrated watershed management framework which is an adaptive management framework that CO and CAs can work with the Province, Federal Government, municipal and other stakeholders to establish and implement.

The following submission is organized according to the five proposed Canada-Ontario Lake Erie Action Plan Categories:

A) Reduce Phosphorus Loadings

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- B) Ensure Effective Policies Programs and Legislation
- C) Improve the Knowledge Base
- D) Educate and Build Awareness
- E) Strengthen Leadership and Coordination

CO and general CA commitments within the current priority watersheds and across the basin are proposed within each of the Lake Erie Action Plan Categories and numbered to align with proposed Canada-Ontario actions within those Categories. Additional comments and recommendations, gaps and solutions are included.

First, Conservation Ontario commends Canada and Ontario for a very well presented summary of the Phosphorus Issue in Sections 1 to 3 of the Action Plan. CO recommends providing some additional information in Section 2.4 which outlines the History of Phosphorus in Lake Erie highlighting the work of other partners and stakeholders. For example the municipal investment in many rural nonpoint source projects that have been delivered through Conservation Authorities over the years could be acknowledged. CO and CAs can provide some statistics to be incorporated into the Final Action Plan. For example, CAs in the Lake Erie Basin have delivered stewardship and conservation services programs to implement a range of projects including to address rural water quality, tree planting, habitat restoration and septic management. Between 2009 and 2015 in the Lake Erie Basin this included the provision of \$30,356,388 in incentive grants to landowners for 9,295 agricultural and non-farm rural projects.

Specifically it is also recommended that on page 13 of the Plan that in Figure 6. Basin 54 be labelled "Lake Erie North Shore". Basin 54 is not part of the "Welland River catchment".

#### Category A: Reduce Phosphorus Loadings

##### A1: Support watershed and nearshore-based strategies and community-based planning for reducing phosphorus loadings

- 1.&2. CO is pleased to see Canada and Ontario commit to the Grand River Watershed and Thames River Watershed Water management plans and emphasize that continued partner engagement is needed to complete the Thames Plan and to implement actions of both plans.

Integrated watershed and water management plans have multiple benefits and CAs will work collaboratively with Canada, Ontario, landowners, municipalities, First Nations and Metis and others on a coordinated approach to the development and implementation of these and new plans that include a focus on reducing phosphorus loadings in the Lake Erie Basin.

3. CO and Lake Erie CAs will work with Canada and Ontario and other partners to explore and develop multi-agency programs that most efficiently and effectively support the implementation of local actions within high risk areas for phosphorus loadings in the western and central Lake Erie Basins. Conservation Ontario recommends being engaged early with Canada, Ontario and stakeholders early in the process of program design.
4. CO will support Canada, Ontario and others in the implementation of the binational nearshore assessment management framework for Lake Erie.

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5. CO and CAs will participate where there are opportunities to partner in initiatives like the Eastern Habitat Joint Venture with the Province, Ontario and Ducks Unlimited Canada to promote and conserve Ontario's wetlands. Please also refer to [Conservation Ontario's submission](#) in response to EBR #012-8760 for comments.

#### A2: Reduce Phosphorus loadings from urban areas

Conservation Ontario supports Canada and Ontario proposed actions to reduce Phosphorus loadings from urban areas. An emphasis should be placed on supporting an integrated approach to urban water, wastewater and stormwater management. The following are numbered to correspond to Actions within this section of in the Plan.

2. There is support for the Ontario commitment to optimizing the performance of wastewater treatment plants to achieve higher effluent quality. This demonstrates a commitment to advance the skills and knowledge of wastewater operators and managers – the key people involved with wastewater treatment in Ontario. Optimization should focus on using good data to make sound decisions at all levels to ensure that existing infrastructure and resources are being fully utilized.
4. CO and CAs will continue to work with Ontario, developers, municipalities and others to promote and support the use of "natural" green infrastructure and low impact development (LID) as a tool for stormwater management including training, demonstration projects and evaluation. CO encourages timely release of Ontario's Draft Stormwater LID Guidance manual.

#### A3: Reduce phosphorus loadings from agricultural and rural areas

1. Conservation authorities can continue to leverage our extensive networks and expertise in the delivery of outreach with landowners and agricultural producers to advance BMPs in Lake Erie and St. Clair Watersheds with new federal or provincial funding. This includes working with municipalities to implement rural water quality programs, and in priority watersheds, the delivery of the programs like the Growing Forward 2 -Great Lakes Agricultural Stewardship Initiative (GLASI), which is helping farmers implement highly targeted beneficial management practices to support edge of field phosphorus reductions and monitor effectiveness.
2. Building on our significant and successful history in delivery of programs in partnership with agriculture, the Province and Federal Government, CAs look forward to collaborating as Canada and Ontario pursue under the next agriculture policy framework (APF) programming that supports a multi-BMP whole farm approach to achieve phosphorus (P) runoff reduction from farmland in the western and central basin of Lake Erie. This should also include the eastern basin as Section B1:1 states: Canada and Ontario will, in cooperation with the US counterparts develop phosphorus load reduction targets to reduce nuisance algae in the eastern basin of Lake Erie. If P reduction targets are anticipated in the eastern basin this region should be included in future APF programming.
3. CAs will also support the Province and agriculture sector partners in the development and delivery of information and tools to increase cover-crop use in the non-growing season to reduce soil loss and field runoff and to promote the application of nutrients using the right source and rate, at the right time and placement. CO is committed to continuing to

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participate at the 4R Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) Table with the agriculture industry and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs to provide input on adoption of 4R nutrient practices within the Lake Erie Basin.

While focus on priority watersheds is critical, basin-wide watershed-wide promotion and adoption of best practices across all sectors will be more effective for the long-term reduction of P loads for Lake Erie.

4. Conservation Ontario commends Ontario for continuing to work with the greenhouse sector to encourage greenhouse growers to recycle nutrients and reduce P levels in discharges to watercourses. The Province and Canada are to be reminded that attention should be placed on discharges from greenhouses to watercourses that flow into Lake St. Clair, as well as Lake Erie, the priority Leamington tributary and the Thames River.

CO and CAs support the harmonization and streamlining of planning tools like the Environmental Farm Plan, Farmland Health Checkup, nutrient management planning to support an integrated whole-farm approach to environmental sustainability. CAs will leverage their outreach and technical expertise towards this effort and emphasize that extension staff support is required to effectively deliver promote action and meet targets.

5. CAs will continue to work with the province, environmental non-government organizations like Ducks Unlimited Canada, municipalities and local watershed landowners and stakeholders to implement restoration of native habitats including wetland and riparian focusing efforts in priority watersheds where phosphorus loadings are high and natural cover is low.
6. CO and CAs will continue to partner with the Province, Forests Ontario, landowners and other organizations in the delivery of the 50 Million tree program. CAs have been the most significant partner with Forests Ontario since the 50 Million tree program's inception in 2007.
7. Conservation authorities will commit to continuous improvement to manage their own lands to minimize P losses.
8. Regarding encouraging dam owners to explore the management of dams to reduce phosphorus outputs (without compromising aquatic invasive species management or hydroelectric power generation and flood management), CAs have expressed they are not aware of any operational approaches to dams that would reduce P outputs. Dams only serve to interfere with the transport of phosphorus and in-river cycling of phosphorus. At least one CA (Grand River) does not support this action as it is stated. Focused effort should be on implementing best practices on the land to keep phosphorus from reaching rivers and Lake Erie.

## Category B: Ensure Effective Policies, Programs and Legislation

### B1: Support and strengthen policies, programs and legislation

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Generally Conservation Ontario is supportive of the recommendations outlined in this section to strengthen provincial policies, programs and legislation in addition to guidance that would apply across Ontario. Regulations should be effectively enforced such that those parties doing the right thing don't become discouraged. This will not only benefit Lake Erie but other Great Lakes, inland lakes, rivers and aquatic systems. Conservation Ontario reiterates our request that CO and CAs be engaged by Province and Federal Government with other stakeholders early in the program design process.

4. Conservation Ontario will continue to participate on the Provincial Agricultural Soil Health and Conservation Strategy Stakeholder Group. CAs will provide input in addition to outreach and delivery of programs that provide economic environmental and social benefits to Ontario and the maximization of long-term carbon storage in soils while protecting their long-term productivity.
5. Regarding the review of Ontario's approach to rural stormwater management and agricultural drainage management using an integrated watershed approach, this is supported and Conservation Ontario and conservation authorities are willing to contribute to this review. Further clarity around the scoping of this review is requested (eg. – review of Drainage Act? development of new or updated guidance on rural stormwater?) Also, clarity in the definitions of rural stormwater vs. urban stormwater management, agricultural drainage management vs. rural stormwater management and municipal drains is recommended. Please also see [Conservation Ontario's Comments](#) on EBR posting 012-8760 *Reducing Phosphorus to minimize Algal Blooms in Lake Erie*.
6. Conservation Authorities are willing to work with the Province and municipalities in supporting outreach related to updated guidance to stormwater management and municipal planning to support the implementation of policies in the Provincial Policy Statement (2014).
7. Conservation Ontario supports the Province in considering enhancing and clarifying regionalized requirements for mandatory pump-out and inspections of septic systems to increase protection of ground and surface water quality.
8. Conservation Ontario supports a review of the hauled sewage policy and program.
10. Please see Section 1.5 Natural Heritage in [Conservation Ontario's Comments](#) on EBR posting 012-8760 *Reducing Phosphorus to minimize Algal Blooms in Lake Erie* and [Conservation Ontario Comments on the Wetland Conservation Strategy 2016-2030](#) EBR posting #012-7675. CO and CAs are willing to continue to work with the province to finalize and implement the proposed Wetlands strategy, including the ecosystem services wetlands sustain like improved water quality and quantity, specifically in this case to reduce phosphorus loadings to Lake Erie, and flood mitigation. Also it is recommended that Ontario work with CO, CAs and stakeholders to finalize specific actions to stop wetland loss and achieve wetland gains.
12. Conservation Ontario encourages the province to consider that when updating wastewater policies (F-series guidance documents) that a cumulative impact assessment framework is used to identify best value solutions. Examples of this approach are already demonstrated in Ontario and are supportive of the Ontario Water Resources Act provisions for phosphorus offsetting.

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## B2: Strengthen decision-making tools

Conservation Ontario supports the acknowledgement in the draft Action Plan that a strong science and monitoring foundation is needed to inform decisions.

1. Conservation Ontario supports the development and CAs look forward to working with Ontario and Canada towards assessing potential application of the Lake Erie watershed digital elevation model (based on the LiDAR technology) and to creating derived products from the data that will assist all members in the Lake Erie Community in making evidence based decisions including flood mapping, areas of soil erosion and precision agriculture to ensure health lands and waters.
2. Conservation authorities can apply the decision-making tools that help manage phosphorus in urban stormwater at the source.

## Category C: Improve the Knowledge Base

Conservation Ontario recommends there are potentially significant contributions that conservation authorities can continue to contribute to the knowledge base, leveraging their expertise and resources in monitoring and modelling with enhanced resources from Canada, Ontario and other partners. Long term monitoring is needed to track progress for evaluation, reporting and adaptation and to validate models.

## C1: Conduct Monitoring and modeling

Generally CAs are committed to working with the Province, Canada and other partners in development and implementation of optimized monitoring and modelling. Among the specific points and commitments below it is generally recommended that Canada and the Province should acknowledge the need for and provide resources to support reliable climate and streamflow monitoring to best characterize phosphorus loadings to Lake Erie. Further, improved flow monitoring at all major tributaries to Lake Erie will assist with estimating loads. Especially, given a changing climate and that phosphorus loading events may become more frequent and driven by extreme climate events.

3. Conservation Authorities also have a strong interest in hydraulic and hydrologic data due to our responsibilities around flood forecasting and warning as well as for delineating flood prone area for the regulations programs. As such Conservation Authorities also collect their own hydraulic and hydrologic data. In fact, many Conservation Authorities maintain their own water level gauges in addition to those maintained by the Water Survey of Canada (WSC) as part of the Canada-Ontario Hydrometric Monitoring Agreement. Data from both Conservation Authority and WSC gauges is usually also collected and compiled by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF). As CAs have a strong interest in the data coming out of the WSC gauge network, CAs often partner up with WSC on maintaining those gauges and provide local support. In recognition of this, a Third Party Operators Assist Agreement has recently been drafted by WSC/MNRF/CAs to formalize such relationships. Conservation Authorities are committed to collecting, maintaining, compiling and sharing high quality hydraulic and hydrologic data in partnership with the federal and provincial governments.

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Conservation Ontario and Conservation Authorities recognize that flow data is required in order to calculate phosphorous loadings. Interested parties on both sides of the border have suggested that the monitoring network for calculating P loading is inadequate on the Canadian side. It is noted that action item C1-3 does not speak to improving and/or expanding the current gauging network to get the required additional flow data. CO and CAs would be in support of a review of and potential improvements or expansion of the WSC gauge network to address the needs in determining P loadings.

4. Conservation Ontario and conservation authorities collaborate with the province to undertake over 95% the Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network (PWQMN) sampling and are committed to continuing to play an instrumental role in Provincial monitoring programs which would not be successful without this kind of partnership.

CO acknowledges the importance of long term monitoring and recommends that the monitoring approach of the PWQMN continue and that new additional long term monitoring specific to measuring nutrient loads at key locations in watersheds be added to ensure it meets the objectives for the province to reduce phosphorus loads to Lake Erie. This should align with ongoing Federal nutrient load monitoring of Canadian tributaries in the Lake Erie basin. Clarity of monitoring objectives by all users is required. To align monitoring outcomes, Conservation Ontario suggests that the province and Canada issue standard monitoring protocols for phosphorus load monitoring and standard methods for load calculation.

Capacity funding is needed to enhance the capabilities of all CAs and CO for continuing this work or adapting the existing monitoring framework to facilitate phosphorus load monitoring.

6. &7. Conservation Ontario and CAs are willing to work with Canada and other partners to validate and ground truth models and would like access to tools like Soil and Water Assessment Tool (SWAT) and others in addition to training on use of these tools for decision making.

#### C2: Conduct research to better understand nutrient dynamics in the Lake Erie Basin.

Conservation authorities are willing to work with the Province, Canada and other stakeholders to better understand nutrient dynamics in the Lake Erie basin including (corresponding to Canada Ontario actions as they are numbered in the Draft Action Plan):

1. Multi-watershed nutrient studies to assess the interaction between agricultural land use and nutrient loadings in streams in the Great Lakes Basins.
2. Research on the use of sensor based technology for monitoring phosphorus and associated parameters, including flows and loadings.
3. Improving understanding of factors contributing to toxic and nuisance algae and their impacts on water quality and ecosystem health.
4. Work with Ontario and Canada in monitoring and research projects in Lake St. Clair/Thames to better understand the source and types of P that are contributing to algal growth.

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6. Work with Ontario and the Lake Erie community to conserve and manage aquatic habitat and the fish community to maintain fish population health and resiliency.

**C.3: Conduct research to better understand and predict the impact of climate change on the Lake Erie ecosystem**

1. As noted above in C1.6&7 conservation authorities are willing to engage in the validation and “ground truthing” of watershed simulation models including under different climate change scenarios and;
2. Work with Ontario to consider climate change in all of its research and monitoring efforts related to Lake Erie.

**C4: Conduct Research to improve existing practices and develop new innovative practices and technologies to reduce phosphorus loadings**

Conservation Ontario supports continued research to improve existing practices and develop new innovative practices and technologies to reduce phosphorus loadings and will identify opportunities to collaborate and to assist in transferring knowledge from this research to other CAs and partners across the province. Conservation authorities are willing to continue to partner in current and future initiatives of this kind including:

1. Conservation Ontario and CAs will consider opportunities to partner with Ontario, academic institutions and other stakeholders in government research programs and initiatives (e.g., New Directions, OMAFRA - University of Guelph Partnership) on needed research and new technologies to test and improve agricultural BMPs for phosphorus reduction.

There are other substantive research efforts being undertaken and proposed at other research institutions including the University of Waterloo proposal in support of legacy nutrient characterization and the Great Lakes through Global Water Futures project.

2. Conservation Authorities will identify opportunities and collaborate with Canada, Ontario and other stakeholders to continue to research on the effectiveness of BMPs in reducing phosphorus losses from agricultural land during typical and extreme weather events.
5. Conservation authorities will identify opportunities and work with Canada, Ontario and other stakeholders to conduct research to improve modeling capability to quantify phosphorus reductions from BMPs at a landscape scale.
6. Conservation authorities will work with Canada and Ontario to investigate current (baseline) and future adoption of BMPs within the Lake Erie basin and within selected sub-watersheds to inform monitoring efforts and progress towards targets.
7. Conservation Ontario is supportive of Ontario’s investigation of social, economic and environmental determinants impacting BMP adoption and will assist in promoting the results of this work to inform communication and outreach which will be undertaken by conservation

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authorities and other stakeholders.

8. Conservation Ontario supports studies that improve understanding of the correlation between phosphorus load reduction and high uptake of low impact development/green infrastructure. Conservation authorities will identify opportunities to work with others, including municipalities to undertake this work. CO and CAs will assist in communicating results towards outreach and implementation.
9. Conservation authorities will work with Canada and Ontario and other partners like Ducks Unlimited Canada to measure effectiveness of wetlands and other natural heritage features in reducing phosphorus through overland flow into watercourses.
10. Conservation Ontario and Conservation authorities will work with Canada, Ontario and other partners to evaluate the feasibility of using economic instruments to achieve phosphorus reductions.

Conservation Ontario and conservation authorities are willing to assist in communicating, and translating the results of this work towards collaboration in the development, implementation and adaptation of programs and best practices to address nutrient issues in watersheds, tributaries, Lake Erie Basin and other Great Lakes. Further actions and comments related to education and awareness are highlighted in the following Section Category D.

#### Category D: Educate and Build Awareness

##### D1: Enhance communication and outreach to build awareness, improve understanding and influence change

Conservation Ontario suggests adding “action” to the title of Section D1. Conservation authorities lead many communications and outreach initiatives. Having built longstanding relationships with municipalities, agricultural stakeholders and landowners, rural and urban landowners, community groups and provincial and federal non-government organizations at the local and watershed level and the Lake Erie Basin CAs are well positioned to continue to work with Ontario and Canada and others to build awareness, improve understanding and influence action and change. This effort needs to be more than “awareness” with specific information that supports delivery of specific and local and individual “actions”. Campaigns that use messaging and concrete calls to action that encourage citizens to change how they feel, think or act will result in change. Canada and Ontario should engage existing frontline conservation authority staff in assisting in the delivery of consistent education and outreach campaigns and programs.

Conservation Ontario will continue to communicate the importance of addressing Lake Erie issues and highlight information needed to influence action and promote collaboration among conservation authorities and all stakeholders.

The final Lake Erie Action plan should identify organizations the public can approach for information in addition to the Province and Canada. Implementers, organizations, municipalities and conservation authorities will have information to provide but also would like access to information for outreach and delivery of technical support, programs and watershed water management planning.

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1. Conservation Ontario and CAs will promote through existing media and social media tools a digital marketing campaign developed by Canada and Ontario to build awareness of the need for actions to reduce phosphorus in the Lake Erie basin .
2. Conservation Ontario and CAs in the Lake Erie Basin will collaborate with Canada, Ontario and the Lake Erie community within their watersheds to enhance the awareness of the impacts of phosphorus on aquatic ecosystems and support with messages targeted for specific local and individual actions.
3. Conservation authorities will work with Ontario and the agriculture sector to communicate practices for responsible nutrient management, and promote soil testing to determine appropriate phosphorus requirements.
4. Conservation authorities with Ontario and in partnership with the agriculture sector, continue to promote, develop, and deliver information and tools to increase cover crop use in the non-growing season to reduce soil loss and field runoff and to promote the application of nutrients at the right time including promotion of the "Timing Matters" initiative.
5. Conservation authorities will collaborate with Ontario to promote and deliver by 2018 enhanced drainage and erosion control education and training to increase awareness of causes of nutrient loading in runoff and how to manage drainage to reduce phosphorus loads. Conservation Ontario recommends specifying the audience for this training, for example Farmers, Tile Drain installers, Drainage Engineers and Superintendents.
6. Conservation Ontario supports the development of a provincial award to recognize excellence, innovation and leadership in demonstrating environmental action at the farm level in the Lake Erie basin. CO and CAs will promote the award and identify eligible candidates and potentially co-host award ceremonies locally when appropriate.
7. Conservation Ontario supports the adoption of integrated water management approaches. Conservation authorities will work with Ontario and partner municipalities to facilitate an event, by March 2018, showcasing the adoption of leading municipal approaches to integrated stormwater management. Conservation Ontario recommends the event focus on integrated "water" management.

#### D2: Share Data and information

Conservation Ontario and CAs look forward to working with the Province, Canada and other stakeholders to establish and receive more clarity regarding frameworks and processes for enabling information to become more publicly accessible to support actions to reduce phosphorus loading in Lake Erie. This includes building on and enhancing existing monitoring and reporting programs and platforms. Clarifying what and who's information is to be made available, who is accountable for reporting, and aligning reporting periods of existing plans and strategies for effective evaluation, adaptation, implementation and communication. This needs to be an important consideration in undertaking the actions proposed in Section E: Strengthen Leadership and Coordination.

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1. Many CAs are recognizing the importance of making their data publically available and are including this in their strategic plans. CO is currently undertaking a partnership with the Great Lakes Observing System to help enable CAs to make their information discoverable and accessible.
2. Reporting and evaluation is a critical component of an adaptive or watershed management framework. Conservation Ontario and conservation authorities will work with Ontario and Canada and other partners to provide annual and other updates including, as appropriate, towards the progress report required every three years under Ontario's Great Lakes Protection Act 2015.
3. Conservation Ontario also recommends that Canada and Ontario ensure results of modelling be shared with implementers like conservation authorities and municipalities as well as the agricultural sector and other partners. All data information research and knowledge requires improved and effective sharing among the partners. Reports and papers along with cited sources should be made more readily accessible.

#### Category E: Strengthen Leadership and Coordination

Conservation Ontario concurs with Canada and Ontario that "effective leadership and coordination are essential for successful reduction of phosphorus loadings to Lake Erie." Conservation Ontario and CAs look forward to continuing the variety of collaborative working arrangements, research partnerships, and implementation initiatives. We also look forward to continuing to participate at various Tables like the Lake Erie Nutrients Working Group, Agricultural Sector Working Group and others.

Conservation Ontario supports Canada and Ontario in building on and strengthening the existing mechanisms and governance frameworks for leadership and coordination including the communities of practice and collaborative networks that have been established to develop and deliver the Grand and Thames River Watershed Water Management plans. These plans align with the proposed adaptive management framework and are models for the development and implementation of other watershed plans in the Lake Erie Basin. Most importantly the Thames and Grand Plans have identified many actions that are similar to the Canada-Ontario Plan to reduce phosphorus in their watersheds.

Also, local source protection plans developed under the Clean Water Act (2006) should be referred to for mandatory policies protecting municipal drinking water sources including Great Lakes intakes. Some of the Source Protection Plan policies address nutrient runoff in Protection areas around Drinking water sources.

Watershed plans must engage all willing stakeholders who are responsible for developing, implementing and reporting on the results of the activities they are responsible for towards adaptive management. This includes "evaluation of whether phosphorus mitigation activities have been immediately effective in meeting targets, effective but with a delay in meeting targets due to legacy effects, or ineffective at current adoption levels."

Conservation Ontario and conservation authorities are willing to work with Canada, Ontario and other partners to promote and ensure that watershed water management plan development and implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (including Watershed Report Cards) are aligned and harmonized with an adaptive management framework which guides action towards phosphorus

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reduction in the Lake Erie Basin. This includes reporting on similar metrics like percent phosphorus load reduction, number of wastewater treatment plans optimizing treatment processes, etc. This way projects/programs can be cross –referenced across the various initiatives and the public can see that there is alignment of activities for the larger Lake Erie Basin efforts. This includes establishing, where possible, clear timelines for targets and deliverables in addition to clarifying accountability for roles, actions and resourcing (human, funding and capital).

#### E1: Improve communication and coordination

1. Conservation authorities will work with Canada and Ontario to facilitate local engagement of First Nations and Métis communities towards their participation and input in the development and implementation of the Lake Erie Action Plan. This will include consideration of Traditional Ecological Knowledge from First Nations and Métis if offered. For example this approach is underway through the Thames River Clear Water Rival, a collaborative initiative in the Thames River Watershed.
2. Conservation Ontario has previously detailed support and interest in engaging with the province to build on existing governance structures and mechanisms including watershed plans to implement the Action Plan.
3. Conservation Ontario and conservation authorities will work with Canada and Ontario and other stakeholders to update the Great Lakes community on progress in implementing the Action Plan through opportunities such as webinars, forums and meetings. As noted previously, clear accountability and timelines for delivery reporting, evaluation, implementation and resourcing should be established for this to be effective.
4. Conservation authorities will continue to work with other stakeholders, Canada and Ontario at the watershed/subwatershed/catchment level to coordinate research, monitoring and modelling activities to improve scientific efforts towards phosphorus reduction on an annual basis.

#### E2: Establish an adaptive management framework

Conservation Ontario's and conservation authorities support for adaptive management through an integrated watershed management approach as a guiding principle of this draft Action Plan has been previously highlighted. This is going to be needed for effective implementation which includes:

1. Working with Canada and Ontario in their assessment and reporting of progress towards achieving phosphorus reduction actions and targets in 2023 and every five years thereafter.
2. Working with Canada and Ontario on the establishment of a suite of performance measures using the binational metrics developed to establish the Phosphorus loading targets, particularly towards alignment with metrics, monitoring and reporting at the watershed level appreciating these will be adjusted as necessary to ensure existing metrics are feasible and sustainable.
3. Working with Canada and Ontario to develop land based performance measures at the watershed level to track changes to land use and management in the Lake Erie Basin over time.
4. Conservation Ontario and CAs will continue to participate at Great Lakes Waters Quality Agreement Tables and other venues towards Canada and Ontario's work with the U.S. federal and state agencies and other partners to develop a binational information platform to track

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progress towards meeting the phosphorus reduction targets to reduce cyanobacteria in the western basin (e.g., through GLWQA Nutrients Annex and the Great Lakes Commission's ErieStat project).

Achieving the goal of 40% reduction will require the participation of many sectors and it will be important to track their progress. This has two very important outcomes – acknowledging the efforts made and also providing an understanding of the amount of effort required to achieve change.

Communications and messaging will be important to balance expectations as it may take decades to see results in Lake Erie. Conservation Ontario reiterates a previous recommendation that in order to track progress the Canada and Ontario are strongly encouraged to establish a long-term commitment to the collection, management and reporting of monitoring data, including translation of the information for decision making by all stakeholders.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to provide comments on the *Canada-Ontario Draft Action Plan – “Partnering in Phosphorus Control: Achieving Phosphorus Reductions in Lake Erie from Canadian Sources”*. Conservation Ontario and individual conservation authorities have provided their comments and commitments as the basis for further discussions to finalize this plan by 2018. We look forward to further engagement with Canada, Ontario and all stakeholders to clarify accountability for actions, confirming resource commitments (human, funding and capital) and the delivery of an adaptive management framework through watershed and nearshore management.

To address the scale of this problem significant new provincial and federal resources and funding are needed immediately. Conservation authorities have been proven long-term cost –effective partners with expertise in front line delivery and CAs in the Lake Erie Basin are ready to leverage local partnerships, funding and programs to implement actions now in order to meet the 40 % reduction target by 2025. Should you have any questions regarding these comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at e-mail: [jrzadki@conservationontario.ca](mailto:jrzadki@conservationontario.ca); extension: 224.

Yours truly,



Jo-Anne Rzaadki, MSc.  
Business Development and Partnerships

cc: Kim Gavine, General Manager  
CAOs, All Conservation Authorities and  
Conservation Ontario Council

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## 8.5) Correspondence, Conservation Ontario, Hydro One Privatization

July 17, 2017



### Memo

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#### Privatization of Hydro One

On Friday May 19<sup>th</sup> the Government of Ontario sold the majority of its shares of Hydro One Incorporated. The province now owns 49.9% and it is anticipated that a future stock offering will reduce the government's ownership to 40%. In March 2011 Conservation Ontario and Hydro One entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which details the protocol that CAs and Hydro One would follow when Hydro One work activities were planned or undertaken on lands regulated under the *Conservation Authorities Act* as well as CA owned-lands outside of a Hydro One easement or rights-of-way. The MOU acknowledges that all Hydro One activities are exempt from CA permitting due to the company's status as a Crown Corporation.

Given the change in status for Hydro One, legal opinions are being sought as to whether or not the company's activities would still be exempt under Section 28(10)(d) of the *Conservation Authorities Act* which indicates that "no regulation...shall interfere with any rights or powers under the *Electricity Act, 1998* or the *Public Utilities Act, 1998*". A working group has been established to update the MOU in conjunction with the CO Section 28 Regulations Committee. In the interim, it is recommended that the spirit of the MOU be followed until further information is available.

For More Information:

Leslie Rich, Policy and Planning Liaison

Email: [lrich@conservationontario.ca](mailto:lrich@conservationontario.ca) Tel: extension 226

Attachment – Memorandum of Understanding Conservation Ontario  
& Hydro One

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## 8.5) Correspondence, Chatham-Kent & LTVCA, Impending Bluff Failure



### **Municipality of Chatham-Kent**

*Legislative Services*

Municipal Governance

315 King Street West, P.O. Box 640

Chatham ON N7M 5K8

Tel: 519.360.1998 Fax: 519.436.3237

Toll Free: 1.800.714.7497

June 28, 2017

Dear Resident:

Please find attached a letter received by the Municipality of Chatham-Kent from the Lower Thames Conservation Authority regarding Impending Failure Zone, Lake Erie Bluff Shoreline.

If you have any questions, please contact the Conservation Authority directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Judy Smith", is written over a horizontal line.

Judy Smith

Director Municipal Governance

Clerk /Freedom of Information Coordinator

June 6, 2017

Municipality of Chatham-Kent  
315 King Street West, Box 640  
Chatham, ON N7M 5K8

Attn: Mayor Hope and Members of Council

Re: **Impending Failure Zone**  
**Lake Erie Bluff Shoreline**

Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority staff undertook a G.I.S. mapping exercise whereby all residential structures within a 10 metre distance from the top of the Lake Erie shoreline bluff were identified. It is our intent to provide this information to the Municipality of Chatham-Kent with the hopes that the municipality will disseminate this information to the landowners of these approximately 29 structures within the 10m zone located across the Lake Erie bluff shoreline. Please note this does not include trailer park mobile home structures.

In a recent Shoreline Management Plan prepared for neighboring Elgin County, Baird and Associates referred to this 10 metre distance from the top of the Lake Erie shoreline bluff as the 'zone of pending failure'. The shoreline bluffs of Chatham-Kent and Elgin County are similar enough that the characterization is also valid for Chatham-Kent. Bluff failures are difficult if not impossible to predict as it would depend on variabilities of the bluff stability (composition of bluff materials) and the processes acting upon it. But it is not a matter of if the failure will occur; rather it is a matter of when. Anecdotal evidence suggests that when failures do occur, they often fail in approximately 10 m chunks. The reality is, if a slope failure were to occur in an area where a residence is 10 m or less from the top of the bluff, it will more than likely do severe damage, if not destroy the dwelling completely. As these failures cannot be predicted, staff are concerned for the potential loss of life in addition to property.

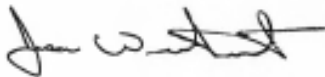
This 'zone of pending failure' is a non-regulatory area where current municipal policies and Conservation Authority Regulations have no control over the use of the structure(s) and/or activities, unless it's new construction or development. This may be something that in the future can be covered off under the Building Code and/or municipal Policies can be created to deal with this impending failure zone. This is not just a planning or building department concern, but could also be a concern for emergency services such as fire. If one of these structures requires the services of the fire department, concern has been expressed in other jurisdictions that, if excessive quantities of water are utilized to extinguish a fire it could cause instability of the bluff resulting in a failure. If fire department staff and/or equipment are located in the structure or within the zone of failure, there is a concern for their loss of life as well.

The Provincial Policy Statement (3.1.1) directs that "Development shall generally be directed to areas outside of: Hazardous lands adjacent to the shorelines of the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River System and large inland lakes which are impacted by flooding hazards, erosion hazards and/or dynamic beach hazards". In Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry technical guidance documents and Conservation Authority Regulations, the erosion-related hazardous lands along the Great Lakes shorelines are defined as a stable slope allowance plus an allowance for 100 years' worth of erosion. Generally speaking, in Chatham-Kent, either of these allowances far exceeds 10 m. As part of this same work in identifying structures located within 10 m of the bluff, staff have also identified all structures within the stable slope allowance and can also provide this information.

Over the years, municipal and conservation authority staff have had to deal with several instances of the Lake Erie bluff failing. While thankfully not frequent, the instances have had significant impacts. Some recent examples from the last 10 years include: the 2009 failure on Douglas Line that destroyed a cottage, the 2010 failure in Romney that led to the relocation of Talbot Trail; and the 2012 progressive failure of the bluff in Romney that saw 20 m of shoreline disappear over a 2 month period.

On a related matter, the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority is currently in the process of updating its Planning and Regulations Policies and Procedures. Staff will be approaching Chatham-Kent Planning and Building Departments sometime this spring or early summer to incorporate any of their comments and concerns. In particular, thoughts around planning and regulation policies along the shoreline would be welcome.

Regards



Jason Wintermute  
Water Management Supervisor  
Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority

cc: Bruce McAllister, Director, Planning Services, Municipality of Chatham-Kent  
Paul Lacina, Director, Building Development Services



## 8.6) Correspondence, Dufferin-Caledon MPP, Sewage Bypass Reporting Letter



Sylvia Jones, MPP  
Dufferin-Caledon

Room 443, Legislative Building  
Toronto, Ontario M7A1A8  
Tel: 416-325-1898  
Fax: 416-325-1936  
E-Mail: [sylvia.jonesla@pc.ola.org](mailto:sylvia.jonesla@pc.ola.org)

July, 2017

Mr. Don Pearson  
Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority  
100 Thames Street  
Chatham, ON  
N7L 2Y8

Dear Mr. Pearson,

I wanted to let you know about my private member's bill introduced on May 31<sup>st</sup>, *Bill 141: the Sewage Bypass Reporting Act, 2017*. Bill 141 requires the Ministry of Environment to notify the public of instances of sewage bypasses.

Sewage bypasses occurs when the flow exceeds the capacity of a wastewater treatment plant, causing untreated or partially treated sewage to be released into Ontario streams, rivers and lakes. Currently, municipalities are obliged to report instances of sewage bypasses to the Regional Offices of the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) as soon as they occur; however that information is not readily available to the public.

Bill 141 proposes an extra step to the current system, which will allow local residents to know when untreated or partially treated sewage is released into their local waterways.

Please find enclosed further details about Bill 141. If you agree with the intent behind Bill 141, I encourage you to write a letter of support to the Minister of Environment and urge him to adopt this important legislation. In addition, I have enclosed my letter to the Minister of Environment. I would appreciate also receiving a copy of your letter to the Minister.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "S. Jones".

Sylvia Jones, MPP  
Dufferin-Caledon  
Deputy Leader of the PC Caucus

RECEIVED

AUG 02 2017

LOWER THAMES VALLEY  
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

all → BOV Correspondence



Sylvia Jones, MPP  
Dufferin-Caledon

Room 443, Legislative Building  
Toronto, Ontario M7A1A8  
Tel: 416-325-1898  
Fax: 416-325-1936  
E-Mail: [sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org](mailto:sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org)

July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017

Hon. Glen Murray  
Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change  
11<sup>th</sup> Floor, Ferguson Block  
77 Wellesley Street West  
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2T5

Dear Minister Murray:

As you are no doubt aware, millions of litres of untreated or partially treated sewage is bypassed from sewage treatment plants every year into our local waterways. Unfortunately, the state of some of the province's sewer infrastructure means that untreated or partially treated sewage is regularly bypassed. Despite municipalities reporting to your ministry instances of sewage bypasses, the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) does not make that information readily available to the public.

That is why I introduced my private member's bill on May 31<sup>st</sup>; Bill 141 – the Sewage Bypass Reporting Act, 2017. If adopted Bill 141 would require the MOE to publish sewage bypasses to the public as soon as possible, but no longer than 24 hours after the bypass was reported. If adopted, Bill 141 would ensure that residents are aware of instances of sewage bypasses and can make safe and educated decisions about how they use their local waterways. The bill will also increase government transparency and allow individuals to see the need and benefits of investments in our water and sewer infrastructure.

Will you commit to implementing the provisions of Bill 141?

Sincerely,



Sylvia Jones, MPP  
Dufferin-Caledon

## **SYLVIA JONES, MPP** **Dufferin-Caledon**

244 Broadway  
Orangeville ON L9W 1K5  
Tel: 519-941-7751



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Twitter: @sylviajonesmpp  
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12596 Regional Road 50  
Bolton ON L7E 1T6  
Tel: 905-951-9382



## **Support Private Members Bill 141 to Require the Ministry of Environment to Report Instances of Sewage Bypasses**

Bill 141 will ensure that Ontarians know when untreated or partially treated sewage is bypassed into their local waterways. Bill 141 will require the Ministry to publish when, where, why the discharge occurred and the measured or estimated volume of discharge as soon as possible but no longer than 24 hours after the bypass was reported.

In 2006 the Ministry of Environment (MOE) estimated that the total volume of sewage dumped from sewage treatment plant bypasses was approximately 18 billion litres. Despite the MOE already requiring reports from municipalities on instances of sewage bypasses, this information is not readily available to the public.

The Ministry of Environment reports that in 2006 over 1,500 sewage bypasses and combined sewer overflows occurred. More recently in June 2017, the Toronto Star reported that the City of Toronto dumped 1.3 million cubic metres of partially treated sewage into Lake Ontario.

While some municipalities proactively report to the public it is not consistent across the province. If passed, Bill 141 would ensure that Ontarians know when untreated or partially treated sewage is bypassed into their local waterways. Bill 141 will also ensure that residents understand the importance of investing in key infrastructure like water treatment plants and pipes.

**Sylvia Jones, MPP - Dufferin-Caledon** [www.sylviajonesmpp.ca](http://www.sylviajonesmpp.ca)

## How YOU Can Help

- Share comments on Bill 141 – Sewage Bypass Reporting Act, 2017. Please contact my office at [sylvia.jonesqp@pc.ola.org](mailto:sylvia.jonesqp@pc.ola.org).
- You can sign the petition support Bill 141 by visiting: [www.sylviajonesmpp.ca](http://www.sylviajonesmpp.ca).
- To get a copy of Bill 141, visit [www.sylviajonesmpp.ca](http://www.sylviajonesmpp.ca) or call **416-325-1898**.
- Share this information with others who want to ensure the public is aware of sewage bypasses in Ontario.
- If you have questions, please email [sylvia.jonesqp@pc.ola.org](mailto:sylvia.jonesqp@pc.ola.org).

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### Support for Bill 141

*"Informing the public about sewage bypasses as they happen gives people the information they need to protect their health. It also helps people to be more informed about the need to properly capture and treat sewage in order to protect the Great Lakes."*

- **Lake Ontario Water Keepers**

*"The Sewage Bypass Reporting Act is a very important step forward in being more open and transparent with the general public about what we are knowingly discharging into our public water courses. People need to know when a sewage bypass occurs so they can make more informed decisions about how and when they use public waterbodies, and to help inform future decisions around public infrastructure investments."*

- **Harry Bauman, President, Ontario Sewer and Watermain Construction Association**

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**If you would like more information or have questions about Bill 141, please contact the office of Sylvia Jones, MPP for Dufferin-Caledon at:**

Room 443, Legislative Building, Queens Park, Toronto, ON, M7A 1A8, (416) 325-1898 or  
244 Broadway, Orangeville, ON, L9W 1K5, 1-800-265-1603 or  
12596 Regional Road 50, Bolton, ON, L7E 1T6

Email: [sylvia.jonesqp@pc.ola.org](mailto:sylvia.jonesqp@pc.ola.org)

*Working For You!*



## 8.8) Correspondence, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, Media Release



**For Immediate Release**  
**Attention: News Editors**

### **Toronto and Region Conservation Authority Announces John MacKenzie as New CEO**

Toronto, ON, Wednesday, Aug. 2, 2017 – Members of Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) are pleased to announce their selection of John MacKenzie as the new Chief Executive Officer of Toronto and Region Conservation.

Following a year-long North American search, City of Toronto Councillor Maria Augimeri, Chair of TRCA, today announced MacKenzie as the successor to current CEO, Brian Denney. Denney will step down as CEO after an exceptional 44-year career at TRCA.

MacKenzie brings more than two decades of experience in urban and environmental planning, public administration, infrastructure planning, project delivery and environmental stewardship to his new role at TRCA. He is currently Deputy City Manager of Planning and Growth Management at the City of Vaughan, where he has played a leadership role in advancing corporate and strategic initiatives. MacKenzie is recognized as an expert on technical and policy matters related to land use planning, natural heritage planning, real estate, infrastructure delivery, land development and environmental assessment.

In his previous roles at the Ontario Government, MacKenzie successfully managed significant infrastructure projects and played a major role in government policy initiatives including the establishment of the Greenbelt Plan and the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan.

"As the Toronto region grows, we face tremendous challenges and opportunities in safeguarding the long-term quality of life through the protection and restoration of a healthy natural environment in the region," said Councillor Augimeri. "Mr. MacKenzie brings the knowledge, experience and leadership qualities to help TRCA and its municipal partners address those challenges and opportunities and forge a path toward a healthy and prosperous future for the Toronto region for generations to come."

MacKenzie will begin his term as CEO of TRCA in November 2017.

-30-

**Media Contact:**  
Rick Sikorski, TRCA  
416-473-5320  
[rsikorski@trca.on.ca](mailto:rsikorski@trca.on.ca)

## 9. Events Calendar

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<b>August 24</b> 3:00-4:00 pm	<b>Longwoods Road Conservation Area Visioning Meeting</b> Authority Board of Directors, Foundation & Ska-Nah-Doht Advisory Committee
<b>August 24</b> 5:00-7:00 pm	<b>Board of Directors Meeting</b> Longwoods Road Conservation Area Pavilion
<b>September 10</b> 2:00 pm	<b>McKinlay Woodlands Dedication Ceremony</b> C.M. Wilson Conservation Area
<b>September 16</b> 8:00 am-12:00 pm	<b>This Muds For You Race Event, Canadian Cancer Society</b> C.M. Wilson Conservation Area
<b>September 17</b> 2:00 pm	<b>Badder Memorial Forest Dedication Service Sunday</b> Mosa Forest (Skunk's Misery)
<b>September 20</b> 1:00pm	<b>Farm Demonstration Trail Opening</b> Walter Devereux Conservation Area
<b>September 24</b> 2:00 pm	<b>Tilbury Northside Park Memorial Forest Dedication Service</b> Tilbury Northside Park
<b>October 1</b> 11:00 am – 4:00 pm	<b>Tastes of Fall at Ska-Nah-Doht Village &amp; Museum/Canada 150</b> Longwoods Road Conservation Area
<b>October 3 – 5</b> 9:00 am-3:00 pm	<b>Chatham-Kent and Lambton Children's Water Festival</b> C.M. Wilson Conservation Area
<b>October 19</b> 2:00-4:30 pm	<b>Board of Directors Meeting</b> LTVCA Administration Building, Chatham
<b>December 14</b> 2:00-4:30 pm	<b>Board of Directors Meeting</b> LTVCA Administration Building, Chatham
<b>November 26</b> 12:00-4:00 pm	<b>Season's Greetings</b> Longwoods Road Conservation Area
	<b>Ongoing Events</b>
<b>First Thursday of month</b> 7:30 pm	<b>Wheatley Two Creeks Association Meetings</b> Royal Canadian Legion, Erie Street N., Wheatley
<b>7 days a week</b> 9:00 am-4:30 pm	<b>Ska-Nah-Doht Village &amp; Museum</b> Longwoods Road Conservation Area
<b>June 4 – September 3</b> 6:30 pm	<b>WTA Sunday Summer Concerts In The Park</b> Two Creeks Conservation Area
<b>July 4 – August 22</b> 7:30-9:30 pm	<b>Twilight Tuesdays</b> 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)