

Board of Directors Meeting

$A \ G \ E \ N \ D \ A$

August 19, 2021 2:00 p.m.

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1. First Nations Acknowledgement

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

5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

5.1) Board of Directors Remote Meeting Minutes - June 17, 2021



Board of Directors Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

The meeting of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority's Board of Directors was held remotely via the LTVCA's Administration Office at 100 Thames Street, Chatham, at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, June 17, 2021. The following directors were in attendance: T. Thompson, L. McKinlay, M. Hentz, P. Tiessen, H. Aerts, C. Cowell, S. Emons, S. Hipple. A. Finn, R. Leatham and J. Wright were unable to attend the meeting.

1. First Nations Acknowledgment

M. Peacock read the First Nations acknowledgement.

2. Call to Order

Chair, Trevor Thompson called the meeting to order.

3. Adoption of Agenda

BD-2021-16 L. McKinlay – S. Hipple

Moved that the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

4. Disclosures of Conflicts of Interest

None Declared.

5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

BD-2021-17 C. Cowell – M. Hentz

Moved that the Board of Directors remote meeting minutes of April 15, 2021 be approved.

CARRIED

BD-2021-18 P. Tiessen – S. Emons

Moved that the Board of Directors remote meeting minutes of June 2, 2021 be approved.

CARRIED

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

6.1) Potential for IT Services from Municipality of Chatham-Kent

BD-2021-19 S. Emons – P. Tiessen Moved that Business Arsing from the Minutes 6.1) be received for information.

CARRIED

7. Presentations

7.1) Retiring Staff

Bonnie Carey and Mark Peacock provided a power point presentation highlighting Karen Mattila's 27 years of employment with the LTVCA.

7.2) Enforcement within the LTVCA and the Potential Impact of Section 29 Revisions

Adam Gibb provided a power point presentation on Enforcement within the LTVCA and the Potential Impact of Section 29 Revisions.

BD-2021-20 M. Hentz – P. Tiessen

Moved that the Board of Directors receive presentations 7.1) and 7.2).

CARRIED

8. New Business

8.1) LTVCA Development of an Ice Guideline and Policy for Dock Construction in the Thames River

8D-2021-21 S. Emons – C. Cowell

Moved that the LTVCA Development of an Ice Guideline and Policy for Dock Construction in the Thames River Report be received for information.

CARRIED

9. Business for Approval

9.1) Income and Expenditure vs Budget to April 30, 2021

BD-2021-22 P. Tiessen – L. McKinlay

Moved that the Board of Directors receives the Budget vs Revenue and Expenditures report for the period ended April 30, 2021.

CARRIED

DRAFT

9.2) Parking Enforcement at LTVCA High Use Properties

BD-2021-23 M. Hentz – P. Tiessen

Moved that the LTVCA staff work with our municipal by- law officers to implement parking ticket offences, that include "Notice of Impending Conviction" to enforce the use of our payment systems at CM Wilson, Longwoods Road and Sharon Creek Conservation Areas.

CARRIED

10. New Business

10.1) CAO's Report

- 10.2) Water Management
- 10.3) Planning and Regulations
- 10.4) Conservation Area Lands
- 10.5) Conservation Services
- 10.6) Communications, Outreach and Education
- 10.7) Ska-Nah-Doht Advisory Committee Minutes April 22, 2021

10.8) Joint Health & Safety Committee Inspection Minutes - May 5, 2021

8D-2021-24 H. Aerts - S. Emons

Moved that New Business items 10.1) to 10.8) be received for information.

CARRIED

11. Correspondence

11.1) Letter of Response from Minister Yurek office regarding compliance with new CA Act Regulations

11.2) Source Water Protection Legislation - letter to Doug Ford from Town of Fort Erie

- 11.3) Food growers issue urgent plea to preserve Ontario's shrinking farmland base
- 11.4) 'Very Fast Death Factor' being released from algal blooms, scientists find
- 11.5) Transfer Payments SEC39 2021/22 Lower Thames Valley CA

BD-2021-25 S. Emons – L. McKinlay

Moved that Correspondence items 11.1) to 11.5) be received for information.

CARRIED

12. In Camera Session

BD-2021-26 C. Cowell – L. McKinlay

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

CARRIED

DRAFT

BD-2021-27 M. Hentz - P. Tiessen

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

CARRIED

13. Other Business

None noted.

14. Adjournment

8D-2021-28 S. Emons - M. Hentz

Moved that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Trevor Thompson Chair Mark Peacock, P. Eng. CAO/Secretary-Treasurer

DRAFT

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

6.1) Preliminary LTVCA Work Plan for addressing requirements of Bill 229 and its Regulations

Date:	Aug. 19, 2021
Memo to:	LTVCA Board of Directors
Subject:	Preliminary LTVCA Work Plan for addressing requirements of Bill 229 and its Regulations Report
From:	Mark Peacock, P. Eng., C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer

Background

A work plan is required to develop the Transition Plan which describes how a Conservation Authority will move from current levying to levying under the rules of Bill 229 and its associated regulations. The draft regulations have not been released as of the writing of this report so a final work plan is not possible. The following report details the deliverables and the process required to develop these deliverable which will allow the LTVCA to become fully compliant with Bill 229 and its Regulations.

Preparation of a Transition Plan

Transition Period

The purpose of the transition period is to prepare conservation authorities and municipalities for the change to the budgeting process based on the delivery of mandatory and "non-mandatory" programs and services by January 1, 2023. There are two parts to the Transition period (Figure 1). The first part is to develop a Transition Plan which consists of a work plan/timeline as well as an Inventory of Programs and Services. The Transition Plan (i.e. Part 1) is required to be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks and to be made available to the public by December 31, 2021.

The second part of the Transition Period includes developing and finalizing the conservation authority/municipal agreements in accordance with any regulations governing municipal programs and services. These agreements must be complete by January 1, 2023. This document will focus on the creation of the Transition Plan. Given the municipal election that is planned for the fall of next year the process will have to be completed by July 30, 2022.





1

Legislative Requirements for the Transition Plan

The applicable legislative requirements for a Transition Plan, as well as consultation are summarized below (Table 1).

Legislative Requirement	Sections in this document
Preparation of an inventory of the CA's	1.2 Defining Programs and Services Inventory
programs and services	
Consultation by the CA with participating	1.1 Development of Work Plan/Timeline and
municipalities on the inventory of programs	Consultations
and services	
Steps to be taken to enter into an agreement	To be developed through meetings with
with the participating municipality where	municipalities
provision of the non-mandatory program or	
service requires capital costs or operating	
expenses (i.e. general municipal levy)	

Table 1: Elements a Transition Plan (see 21.1.4 (2)) of the Conservation Authorities Act

*Note that additional matters could be prescribed by the regulations.

1.1 Development of Work Plan / Timeline and Consultations



Background

As outlined in the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks' Regulatory Proposal Consultation Guide (Phase 1), the Transition Plan is to include a work plan and timeline outlining the steps the conservation authority plans to take to develop and enter into agreements with its participating municipalities. The Transition Plan is to include the consultation process with participating municipalities on the inventory of all the Authority's programs and services and the steps to be taken to enter into agreements where municipal levy is required to fund non-mandatory programs and services (i.e. categories 2 and 3). See Figure 2 for further details. In essence, the work plan/timeline and inventory of programs and services will support budget discussions including the newly proposed categorization of CA programs and services as 1, 2, or 3 and with specification of the funding mechanism (Figure 2). While some conservation authorities may have similar budget processes and timelines as others (e.g., neighbouring CAs), for the most part each conservation authority has its own budget processes and timelines with their municipalities. It should also be recognized that many processes and timelines will be directed by the municipality and not the conservation authority. Coordination between neighbouring CAs that share a municipality will be required to address municipal needs.

Figure 2: Description of CA Programs and Service Categories as per MECP (for inventory)

- Mandatory programs and services (where municipal levy could be used without any agreement)
- Municipal programs and services. Non-mandatory programs and services at the request of a municipality (with municipal funding through a MOU/agreement)
- Other programs and services. Nonmandatory programs and services an authority determines are advisable (use of municipal levy requires a MOU/agreement with participating municipalities).

Refinement of the LTVCA Work plan/Timeline

With an appreciation that details may change as Regulations are released, a general description of the draft LTVCA work plan/timeline follows. The following is a general timeline for each step, with considerations for refining each step with details as regulations defining provincial requirements are made available:

PART 1: Transition Plan

End of Summer - Mid Fall, 2021

- 1. Develop work plan/timeline for developing inventory and reaching agreements.
- Meet with municipalities to determine their needs and how they will complete their elements of the process so that the LTVCA work plan can be finalized
- 3. The final Work Plan will include:
 - consider steps necessary to develop the Program and Service inventory
 - consider budget process timelines for each participating municipality and their timing expectations to assist with developing realistic timelines
 - establish/confirm municipal staff leads/contacts for any preliminary discussion on the details of the inventory (e.g. agreements required) which will set the stage for the 2023 budget submission
 - confirm expectations with regard to delegations/reports to Municipal Council with the participating municipality's CA Board representative(s) and the participating municipality staff leads
 - discuss coordination with neighbouring CAs that share a participating municipality
 - meetings with municipality CAO / assigned staff leads to discuss any initial questions, concerns or issues
 - consider individual CA Board business processes and meeting dates in order to achieve 'on time' approvals

 develop the work plan/timeline utilizing above information and include proposed outreach plans with each participating municipality in work plan/timeline

End of Summer - Mid Fall, 2021

- 4. Continue negotiations with municipalities for the development of Planning Agreements
- These planning agreements will clearly define the planning services each municipality will be requiring from the LTVCA
- A number of draft agreements have been sent to municipalities prior to COVID-19 so these
 negotiations will continue using work completed to date

End of Summer - End of Fall, 2021

- Develop Program and Service inventory (see Section 1.2 Defining Programs and Services Inventory for details). Final Work Plan will include:
 - number of CA Board meetings necessary to achieve an approved version of this inventory for consultation with participating municipalities before December 31, 2021;
 NOTE: additional consultation on the inventory will occur as part of the 2023 budget approval meetings/process in 2022 and as agreements are negotiated.

End of Summer - December 31, 2021

 Develop draft preliminary Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy to guide negotiations with municipalities. Note timing will mean that strategy will be completed after July 31, 2021. Circulate draft as directed by the Board of Directors.

Mid Fall - December 31, 2021

- Circulate draft work plan/timeline and Inventory of Programs and Services to municipalities. This will include:
 - circulation of a finalized work plan/timeline and inventory as soon as possible
 - Based on direction from the board, this work plan will be circulated to the public
 - Consider circulation to public as 'for your information' and provide opportunity for response/identification concerns within XX days
 - Utilizing the 2023 budget approval process to reach agreement on the details
 - incorporate input from municipalities into Work Plan and Transition Plan
- Submit Transition Plan to Province by end of December, must include: CA program and service inventory, materials supporting consultation with participating municipalities, and steps to enter into any agreements with participating municipalities for funding of authority determined programs and services.
- 9. Final Transition Plan made available to the public.

PART 2: MOUs/Agreements

Winter 2021 - Summer, 2022

- 10. Consultation on municipal agreements and from this define the 2023 budget planning process
- Prepare required Spring and Summer quarterly reports on status of progress made in attaining
 agreements with municipalities. Submit to Minister and make them public. (March 31st and June 30th)
 "NOTE: Conservation Ontario is developing a reporting template/guidance for the authorities to follow
 for consistency and clarity in Fall 2021.

Late Summer - Early Fall, 2022

- 12. Prepare/submit quarterly report to Minister and make public (September 30, 2022)
 - Consider preparing this report early as it will advise whether or not a request for extension should be prepared as well
 - OPTIONAL Depending on Municipal Response Development of Request for Extension Written
 requests are proposed to include:
 - o The length of extension requested
 - The steps the conservation authority has taken to implement its transition plan and enter into agreements with municipalities
 - Rationale for requesting an extension.

October 1, 2022 – deadline for requests for extensions to Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (i.e. at least 90 days before the end date in the transition period)

Summer 2022 - January 1, 2023

- Meetings with municipal staff as necessary to finalize all agreements further to any Municipal Council direction.
- 14. Municipal and Board approval
- 15. Posting of final MOUs/agreements on CA website.

January 1, 2023 - Transition Period ends

All required conservation authority/municipal MOUs/agreements would need to be in place, and the transition to the new funding model for conservation authorities and municipalities would be reflected in authority budgets for 2023 in compliance with the new legislation.

1.2 Defining Programs and Services Inventory



Preparation of Programs and Services Inventory

In order to promote consistency across the 36 conservation authorities, a consistent high level program naming convention and description of high level programs and services has been developed through Conservation Ontario (see <u>High Level Programs and</u> <u>Descriptions</u> below) and will be used to complete the LTVCA Programs & Services Inventory. Note that the categories are not final until provincial regulations are received.

Currently, mandatory programs and services are described by the Consultation Guide and will be further updated once the Phase 1 regulations are released. Non-mandatory programs will be added to complete the inventory. These services are those requested by municipalities or defined by the LTVCA and accepted by municipalities through agreements.

Figure 2. Descriptions of CA Program and Service categories as per MECP (for inventory)

- Mandatory programs and services (where municipal levy could be used without any agreement)
- Municipal programs and services. Non-mandatory programs and services at the request of a municipality (with municipal funding through an MOU/agreement)
- Other programs and services. Nonmandatory programs and services an authority determines are advisable (use of municipal levy requires on MOU/agreement with participating municipalities)

High Level Mandatory Programs and Descriptions

Natural Hazard Management

Activities protecting life and property from flooding and other natural hazards.

Conservation Lands and Conservation Areas

Managing, maintaining and conserving lands owned or controlled by the Authority for the protection of biodiversity and natural heritage including the preservation of areas of significant environmental and ecological importance; and providing opportunities for outdoor recreation.

Drinking Water Source Protection

Contributing to the protection of existing and future sources of municipal drinking water by delivering the duties, functions, and responsibilities of a source protection authority under the *Clean Water Act*.

Lake Simcoe Protection Plan

The Lake Simcoe Protection Plan, which addresses long term environmental issues in Lake Simcoe and its watershed, by building on science and monitoring programs that inform the adaptive management approach used to address threats to the ecosystem, such as degraded water quality, unsustainable land uses and pressures of human activity.

Water Quality & Quantity Monitoring

A long-standing (20+ year) CA/MECP partnership for surface and groundwater monitoring at a Provincial scale.

On-site sewage systems (septic systems) approvals by North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority as prescribed under the Building Code Act, 1992.

Enforce provisions related to sewage systems under the *Building Code Act*, 1992 (e.g., approve permits for onsite sewage systems).

Core Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy

Advancing and contributing to the maintenance of a healthy and resilient natural environment.

Note: All other programs offered by the LTVCA are currently considered Non-Mandatory and will need to be part of municipal agreements to have levy included for their undertaking.

Recommendation:

That the Preliminary LTVCA Work Plan for addressing requirements of Bill 229 and its Regulations. Report be received for information.

The report aligns with the following objectives of the LTVCA's Strategic Plan:

1. Strengthen and Increase Collaboration with Community Stakeholders

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

7. Presentations

7.1) Imagine McGregor Project

Anastasia Heuvelmans will provide a power point presentation on the Imagine McGregor Project.

7.2) Lower Thames Water Monitoring

Daniel Bittman will provide a power point presentation on Lower Thames Water Monitoring.

7.3) Proposal for Skakel Conservation Area

Adam Gibb will provide a power point presentation on a Proposal for Skakel CA.

7.4) Preliminary LTVCA Work Plan for addressing requirements of Bill 229 and its Regulations

Mark Peacock will provide a power point presentation on Preliminary LTVCA Work Plan for addressing requirements of Bill 229 and its Regulations.

8. New Business

8.1) Final Signed Memorandum of Understanding between Conservation Ontario and Hydro One Networks Inc.

Following endorsement at the June, 2021 Conservation Ontario Council meeting, a Memorandum of Understanding between Conservation Ontario and Hydro One Networks Incorporated has been signed. The intent of this MOU is to simplify the issuance of permits and other works that involve Conservation Authorities. This MOU replaces one signed in 2011.

ABOUT THE UPDATED MOU

The MOU has been prepared such that it maintains and enhances many of the principles of the past (2011) MOU, while recognizing that Hydro One is no longer exempt from obtaining CA permission under Section 28 of the CA Act for their works. Additional background information on the MOU can be found in the June 2021 Conservation Ontario Council Report.

Tools have been developed for Conservation Authority use and include a Protocol for Obtaining Permission under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act for Common Hydro One Maintenance and Construction Activities, an application form for newly developed Standard Compliance Requirements, and a fillable Standard Compliance Requirement permission forms, for use by CAs. With endorsement by Conservation Ontario Council in June, use of this MOU is moving forward. The LTVCA staff are bring the 2021 MOU to this Board for its endorsement to consider the local use of the "Protocol for Obtaining Permission under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act for Common Hydro One Maintenance and Construction Activities" and the "Hydro One Application Form for Permissions from Conservation Authorities" relative to their administration of section 28 regulatory responsibilities.

UPCOMING TRAINING

To support implementation of the updated agreement, a virtual training session will be held August 18, 2021 and LTVCA staff will be attending. The training session will be recorded and made available to those CA staff who are unable to attend on the scheduled date.

Staff believe that use of these protocols will simplify issuance of Hydro One permits and recommends board endorsement for use within the Section 28 permitting program. The full draft version MOU as included in the June 21 Conservation Ontario Council agenda (that was signed) is included in the correspondence portion of this agenda, item number 11.3.

Recommendation:

The LTVCA Board endorses the use of the "Protocol for Obtaining Permission under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act for Common Hydro One Maintenance and Construction Activities" and the "Hydro One Application Form for Permissions from Conservation Authorities" relative to administration of Section 28 regulatory responsibilities.

The report aligns with the following objectives of the LTVCA's Strategic Plan:

1. Strengthen and Increase Collaboration with Community Stakeholders

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

9. Business for Approval

9.1) Income and Expenditure vs Budget to June 30, 2021

Date:	August 19, 2021
Memo to:	LTVCA Board of Directors
Subject:	Income and Expenditure vs Budget to June 30, 2021
From:	Todd Casier, CPA, CA, Manager, Finance and Administrative Services

Background:

Review the 2021 Budget to the Revenue and Expenditures for the 6 months ended June 30, 2021.

REVENUE	2021	2021 BUDGET		2021 ACTUAL	\$ VARIANCE
	BUDGET	JUN PROJECTED		TO JUN 30	TO PROJECTED
GRANTS	1,128,824	564,412	*	1,040,192	475,780
GENERAL LEVY	1,477,082	1,477,082	^	1,477,082	0
DIRECT SPECIAL BENEFIT	205,000	205,000	^	205,000	0
GENERAL REVENUES	508,490	254,245	*	470,351	216,106
FOUNDATION GRANTS & REVENUES	0	0	*	0	0
RESERVES	0	0	*	0	0
CASH FUNDING	3,319,396	2,500,739		3,192,625	691,886
OTHER	0	0		70,000	70,000
TOTAL FUNDING	3,319,396	2,500,739		3,262,625	761,886

*-based on a 6 of 12 month proration of the budget

^-based on cash received to date

Grant income is greater than budgeted due to the reversal of deferred revenue for ongoing programs, the timing of grants invoiced and increased or new Water Quality, employment, education, OMAF and ALUS grants.

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

Levy revenue is shown on a cash basis. All municipalities are paid in full.

General Revenue is above budget due to the following factors:

 Planning & Regulations, Conservation Areas, Conservation Services and Chatham-Kent Greening are above budget. Planning & Regulations has seen a huge increase in demand over budgeted, Conservation Areas have collected a large portion of their seasonal camping revenue and Conservation Services and Chatham-Kent Greening have completed most of their tree sales for the year. This is partially offset by Education being below budget.

Foundation Grants and Revenues budget are zero because of the uncertainty of funds available.

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

Other revenues are above budget due to the donation of property to the Conservation Authority

EXPENSES	2021	2021 BUDGET	2021 ACTUAL	\$ VARIANCE
	BUDGET	JUN PROJECTED	TO JUN 30	TO PROJECTED
WATER MANAGEMENT				
FLOOD CONTROL STRUCTURES	194,441	97,220	90,103	(7,117)
EROSION CONTROL STRUCTURES	9	4	8	4
FLOOD FORECASTING AND WARNING	200,602	100,301	70,456	(29,845)
TECHNICAL STUDIES	126,250	63,125	59,257	(3,868)
PLANNING & REGULATIONS	279,822	139,911	152,047	12,136
WATERSHED MONITORING (PGMN)	93,441	46,721	73,797	27,076
SOURCE PROTECTION	32,481	16,240	25,285	9,045
THAMES MOUTH DEBRIS REMOVAL	0	0	0	0
Water Management Subtotal	927,046	463,522	470,953	7,431
CONSERVATION & RECREATION PROPERTIES				
CONSERVATION AREAS	631,238	315,619	332,973	17,354
COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND EDUCATION				
COMMUNITY RELATIONS	188,262	94,131	83,186	(10,945)
CONSERVATION EDUCATION	84,669	42,335	41,350	(985)
SKA-NAH-DOHT VILLAGE	114,813	57,407	66,209	8,802
Community Relations & Education Subtotal	387,744	193,873	190,745	(3,128)
CONSERVATION SERVICES/STEWARDSHIP				
CONSERVATION SERVICES (FORESTRY)	99,995	49,998	83,432	33,434
CHATHAM-KENT GREENING PROJECT	446,513	223,257	321,598	98,341
PHOSPHORUS REDUCTION	599,579	299,789	378,758	78,969
SPECIES AT RISK	227,281	113,641	112,313	(1,328)
Conservation Services/Stewardship Subtotal	1,373,368	686,685	896,101	209,416
CAPITAL/MISCELLANEOUS				
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS (FED/PROV)	0	0	0	0
Capital/Miscellaneous Subtotal	0	0	0	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	3,319,396	1,659,699	1,890,772	231,073

Water Management

Flood Control Structures are slightly below budget due to some large works planned for the fall.

Flood Forecasting and Warning expenses are below budget due to no flood event on the Thames River this year, several large annual invoices received later in the year and staffing being utilized by other programs.

Technical Studies are below budget due to the time of the Technical Studies staffing being utilized by other programs.

Planning and Regulations is above budget due to the large influx of permits and the resources and staffing required to process these permits.

Watershed Monitoring is above budget due to the increase of a Water Quality grant and the increased expenses.

Source Protection is above budget due to the timing of when employees work on this program.

Conservation Areas

Conservation area expenses are above budget due to increased wages costs covered by employment grants received after the budget was created and the costs of opening of the Conservation Area campgrounds and some of the other larger operations costs being incurred.

Community Relations and Education

Community Relations and Conservation Education are below budget due to the seasonal nature of activities in these programs. SKA-NAH-DOHT Museum and Village is slightly above budget due to new grants to purchase equipment.

Conservation Services/Stewardship

Conservation Services (Forestry) and Chatham-Kent Greening expenses are above budget as most large activities, like tree planting, and the related expenses have been completed.

Phosphorous Reduction is above budget due to increased OMAF COA and ALUS grants and the increased expenses.

Species at Risk is comparable to budget.

Capital/Miscellaneous

No Capital/Miscellaneous expenses to date.

Summary:

	2021	2021 BUDGET	2021 ACTUAL	\$ VARIANCE
	BUDGET	JUN PROJECTED	TO JUN 30	TO PROJECTED
TOTAL CASH FUNDING	3,319,396	2,500,739	3,192,625	691,886
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	3,319,396	1,659,699	1,890,772	231,073
OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	0	841,040	1,301,853	460,813
LESS: ACQUISITION OF CAPITAL ASSET	0	0		0
NET CASH FUNDING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	0	841,040	1,301,853	460,813

At June 30, 2021, LTVCA's operating surplus is favourable due to increased grant and general revenue over budget and partially offset by increased expenditures due to the increased grants and the seasonal nature of some expenditures.

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

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors receives the Budget vs Revenue and Expenditures report for the period ended June 30, 2021.

The reports align with the following objectives of the LTVCA's Strategic Plan:

4. Improve Transparency and Understanding of Financial Statements

Respectfully Submitted

Todd Casier, CPA, CA Manager, Financial and Administrative Services

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

10. Business for Information

10.1) C.A.O.'s Report

Date:	August 19, 2021
Memo to:	LTVCA Board of Directors
Subject:	C.A.O.'s Report
From:	Mark Peacock, P. Eng., C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer

Covid-19 update

Opening of Offices

The Pandemic Management Committee continues to meet three times a week to review questions and provide direction to staff as they deal with Covid 19. All activities being undertaken away from home are being done under staff developed and approved Covid 19 Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) to ensure compliance with all local, provincial and federal requirements. All activities undertaken at LTVCA facilities are done in compliance with the LTVCA COVID-19 Safety Plan.

The Pandemic Management Committee is recommending to staff that the administrative offices be opened to staff and the public starting September 6, 2021. Arrangements are being made to ensure safety of staff and clients. A limited opening of the Resource Centre at Longwoods Road CA will be also occurring in September using a number of Covid-19 protocols. **All openings are contingent on 4th wave concerns being addressed.**

The report aligns with the following objectives of the LTVCA's Strategic Plan:

1. Strengthen and Increase Collaboration with Community Stakeholders

Respectfully Submitted

Mark Peacock, P. Eng.

C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer

10.2) Water Management

10.2.1) Flood Forecasting and Operations

Flood Messaging and Diversion Channel Operations

There have been only 7 flood messages issued since the last written report to the Board of Directors. Two of these were standing message issued for Lake St. Clair and Lake Erie shoreline flooding and intended to cover the months of July and August. Three messages were Flood Outlook messages for the Lake Erie Shoreline and Erie Shore Drive due to strong south or southwest winds in the forecasts. They were issued June 17th, 20th and 24th. In the end, the strong winds never arrived in the Erieau - Erie Shore Drive area and no flooding was recorded. The final two events were related to heavy rains and thunderstorms that had the potential to impact local watercourses. A Flood Watch issued on June 26th and a Flood Outlook issued on July 16th. The rain event on June 25th and 26th dropped substantial amounts of water the northern area of Chatham-Kent east into Elgin County, with some areas of the LTVCA reporting in excess of 100 m total rain. However, the McGregor Creek watershed did not receive as much rain during this event and flows came in just under the threshold for operation of the Diversion Channel. The rains were not quite as heavy for the July 16th event. Many areas of the watershed came in at around 50 mm of rain. However, due to a series of rain events in the days leading up to this event, the ground was saturated and couldn't handle any more water. Many local ditches and creeks rose and spilled their banks. Flows on McGregor Creek exceeded the threshold for operating the Diversion Channel by around 50% and the Diversion Channel Dam was closed late in the evening on the 16th commencing operations. Water levels didn't peak until the afternoon of the 17th and the dam was reopened the evening of the 18th, ending operations.

Report on Lake Conditions

Average daily water levels on Lake Erie at the beginning of August were around 174.84 m (I.G.L.D.). This is down about 30 cm from last year's peak daily average water level record set at the end of May. The all-time record high monthly average for August was 175.02 m, set in 2019. Water levels at the beginning of August were still 56 cm above what would be considered normal for the month of August. Water level forecasts suggest that water level have now peaked for this year and will finally begin their seasonal decline, dropping perhaps 12 to 13 cm by the beginning of September.

Average daily water levels on Lake St. Clair at the beginning of August were around 175.74 m (I.G.L.D.). This is down about 34 cm from last year's peak daily average water level record set during the third week of May. The all-time record high monthly average for August was 175.97, set last year. Water levels at the beginning of August were 56 cm above what would be considered normal for the month of August. Water level forecasts suggest that water level have now peaked for this year and will finally begin their seasonal decline, dropping perhaps 7 or 8 cm by the beginning of August.

It had been a fairly dry spring this year and water levels on the lakes did not rise as quickly as would be typically expected. On Lake Erie, from March through May, water levels only rose around half of what would be expected during an "average" year for this time period. On Lake St. Clair, from March through May, water levels only rose around a quarter of what would be expected. Forecasts at the time suggested that the seasonal decline in water levels would begin as usual near the end of May or beginning of June. That did not happen. Thunderstorm activity picked up in late May and continued through June and July. Water levels on the lakes continued to rise through June and most of July, only beginning to drop during the last week of July. This means that, heading into the autumn, water levels will be higher than previously expected, with a slightly higher associated risk of shoreline flooding. Looking forward over the month of August, the USACE weekly water level update predicts that, by the beginning of September, water levels on Lake Erie will drop 12 or 13 cm and that water levels on Lake St. Clair will drop 7 or 8 cm. The U.S. and Canadian seasonal precipitation forecasts are not suggesting any significant rainfall anomaly that would either further delay or increase this seasonal decline in water levels.

The figures below are published by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers and graph the monthly average water levels and water level forecast over the next 6 months. These versions were published at the beginning of August.



LAKE ST. CLAIR WATER LEVELS - AUGUST 2021





10.2.2) Flood Control Structures

LTVCA staff experienced technical challenges operating the gates of the Diversion Channel Dam on the weekend of July 16th to 18th. While closing the gates of the dam, there was a power outage in the area. Only one gate was closed before the power went out. When the power came back on, the remaining two gates would not operate. As a result, the remaining two gates were closed manually by hand cranking. It was discovered that the main breaker to the dam had blown and it was replaced on the 17th. Further difficulties occurred on the 18th when reopening the dam. One of the gates opened without issue; this gate was one which recently had its actuator replaced. However, the second actuator struggled to open its gate and the third actuator would not function at all. The dam was opened enough that evening to allow normal flows to pass and Rotork, the manufacturer/supplier of the actuators, was called in the next day to assess. These two actuators, which are over 25 years old, suffered the same failure as the first and also need to be replaced. An initial cost estimate for replacement actuators is \$26,000 and additional quotes are being sought.

As of August 11, 2021, the actuators are on order from Rotork at a combined cost of \$25,882.18. Decision to go with Rotork is based on existing equipment on site and service needs. Two other companies were contacted, no quote was received from one, and a quote was acquired from Troy-ontor, it was competitive but due to existing equipment Rotork was selected.

Regular seasonal maintenance is being conducted on the LTVCA's other flood control structures.

10.2.3) Low Water Response Program

The Low Water Response Program looks at both precipitation and flow in local watercourses in determining whether there is a low water condition. For precipitation, both 18-month and 3-month rainfall totals are examined and the program thresholds are: Level 1, 80% of average; Level 2, 60% of average; and Level 3, 40% of average. For flows, the average flow over the last month is examined and the summer thresholds are: Level 1, 70% lowest average summer flow (LASF); Level 2, 50% LASF; and Level 3, 30% LASF. During the growing season, LTVCA staff create a brief report summarizing conditions around the watershed, which is available by request.

It had been a very dry spring in the region. When rainfall conditions didn't improve in May, a Level 1 Low Water Condition was declared at the beginning of June. However, a series of thunderstorms passing through the region later in June, including the very significant event on June 25/26th, boosted water levels and flows above the program criteria. The Level 1 Condition was lifted at the beginning of July. Thunderstorm activity continued throughout July with another significant rainfall event occurring on July 16th. This ensure that water levels remained above the program thresholds through July as well.

Further information on the Provincial Low Water Response Program can be found at https://www.lioapplications.lrc.gov.on.ca/webapps/swmc/low-water-response/

10.2.4) Watershed Monitoring

Watershed-wide, surface water quality monitoring continues at 22 sites throughout the watershed. The sampling was being conducted under two programs, the Provincial (Surface) Water Quality Monitoring Program (PWQMN) and a special grant under Canada-Ontario Agreement (COA) Respecting the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem.

10.2.5) Harmful Algal Blooms (HAB)

Lake Erie Blooms

The U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issues a seasonal forecast in early July for potential HABs on Lake Erie. The Seasonal Lake Erie HAB Forecast gives coastal managers and drinking water facility operators a general sense of how "bad" the upcoming bloom season has the potential to be. The seasonal forecast is an ensemble of models based largely upon phosphorus discharge from the Maumee River. This year the seasonal forecast was issued on June 30th (see forecast below).

During the bloom season, the operational NOAA Lake Erie HAB Forecast provides the current extent and 5-day outlooks of where the bloom will travel and what concentrations are likely to be seen, allowing managers to determine whether to take preventative actions. At the time this agenda was drafted, the most recent Forecast was from August 11th (see forecast below).

As of August 7th, the NOAA HAB interactive map appeared to show small blooms in Lake Erie near Ohio, as well as smaller blooms in Lake St. Clair near Lighthouse Cove. However, by August 11th, the Lake St. Clair bloom appeared to be absent.

NOAA Western Lake Erie Harmful Algal Bloom Seasonal Forecast

30 June 2021



NOAA and our research partners forecast that western Lake Erie will experience a smaller-than-average harmful algai bloom (HAB) of cyanobacteria this summer. The bloom will be similar in size to 2020, making this the first time in more than a dozen years that relatively mild blooms will have occurred in consecutive summers.

We expect this year's bloom to have a severity index of about 3, with a potential range between 2-4.5. The severity index is based on the quantity (biomass) of the bloom over a sustained period. The largest blooms, 2011 and 2015, were 10 and 10.5, respectively. The 2020 bloom had a severity of 3. The size of a bloom does not necessarily indicate how toxic It is. During calm weather, the usual cyanobacteria, Microcystis, can form soums, which concentrate toxins at the surface. People and pets should not swim in areas with scum.



The bloom varies in size and location through the summer and early fail. Winds are a key factor in determining where the bloom will go. Many areas of the lake will be safe to enjoy through the summer. Information on the location and intensity of the bloom can be found at NOAA's Lake Erie Harmful Algal Bloom Forecast (https://coastalscience.noaa.gov/research/stressor-impacts-mitigation/hab-forecasts/lake-erie/).

Nutrient load data for the forecast came from Heidelberg University, with additional input from NOAA's Ohio River Forecast Center. The forecast models are run by NOAA's National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science, the University of Michigan, Stanford University, and the Carnegie Institution for Science. For additional information for safe recreation, check Ohio EPA's site on harmful algal blooms: https://epa.ohio.gov/HAB-Algae.





Figure 1. Bloom forecast compared to previous years. The wide bar is the likely range of the combination of models that were applied, the narrow bar indicates possible range. A severity below 3 is the goal of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA).

Figure 2. Cumulative total bioavailable phosphorus (TBP) load for the Maumee River at Waterville. Each line denotes a different year, 2021 is shown in red, with the forecast range to August 1 shown in pink. The TBP load over the first week of July will have the greatest impact, and could push the bloom severity to the maximum value (4.5).



3 Total bloavallable Floure phosphorus (TBP) load accumulated from the Maumee River near Waterville to date (221 metric tons) shown in red, with the upper likely estimate for the end of July (272 metric tons) shown in pink.



Figure 4. The maximum bloom intensity in 2016 (Aug 10-19) and 2020 (Aug 21-31) collected with Copernicus Sentinel-3 data, 2021 may be similar to one of these blooms, depending on winds. In 2016, winds from the west spread the bloom more thinly over a larger area; in 2020, winds from the northeast tended to concentrate it more in a smaller area. We cannot yet forecast which condition may occur. Bluish-green indicate low concentrations, which would have been barely noticeable by eye on most days. Sandusky Bay has a different type of cyanobacteria and typically does not have scum.

For more information visit: http://www.ncwgr.org/ or https://coastaiscience.noaa.gov/research/stressor-impacts-mitigation/hab-forecasts/

Lake Erie Harmful Algal Bloom Forecast



Imagery Analysis & Forecast - 2021-08-11

The Microcystis cyanobacteria bloom is present in western Lake Erie but cloud cover and winds prevent determining the area. The bloom has formed patches and shifted somewhat westward to near the Michigan coast south of Monroe. 10 mph and greater winds have reduced surface concentration, and may continue so this week. Haze from the west coast wildfires is interfering with detection. Traces of cyanobacteria are detectable in Sandusky Bay. This is unrelated to western Lake Erie blooms. The seasonal forecast was issued June 30. No recent toxin data currently available. -Stumpf 08/11



Current Lake Erie Sentinel-3A satellite imagery from the Ocean and Land Color Imager (OLCI) on Aug 09, 2021, showing bloom location and extent in the western basin. Grey indicates clouds or missing data. The estimated threshold of cyanobacteria detection is 20,000 cells/mL. Inset shows a truecolor image of the entire lake. Data derived from Copernicus Sentinel-3.



Wind speed and direction from Marbiehead, OH. Blooms mix through water column at wind speeds > 15 knots.



Where the bloom is present in western Lake Erie, the potential risk of scum (left), and risk of mixing of the bloom down into the water column every 6 hours over the next 5 days. Mixing is weakest during mild winds.



Forecast surface bloom position for Aug 11, modeled from the last satellite image with water currents estimated from the Lake Erie Operational Forecast System (LEOFS). Potential for bloom movement is forecast in 3-dimensions with a hydrodynamic model using satellite imagery and currents. The modeled output does not contain clouds. Black indicates the absence of chlorophyll and gray indicates area with no data. The arrows show forecasted currents. Water temperature and winds (in magenta) are the averages for the western basin from the model.



Forecast surface bloom position for Aug 15. Black indicates the absence of chlorophyll and gray indicates area with no data. The arrows show forecasted currents. Water temperature and winds (in magenta) are the averages for the western basin from the model.

Additional resource:

- Archived Lake Erle Forecasts
- More information about our bloom monitoring imagery.
- FAQs Frequently Asked Questions about cyanobacteria and the forecasts NOAA issues
- Contributors and Data Providers
- Lake Erie HAB Forecast Guide User guide to help navigate the forecast products.



Thames River Blooms

The Thames River itself has also been experiencing algae blooms over the last few years. These blooms have been bluegreen algae blooms exhibiting very low levels of toxins. Such blooms were seen in 2017, 2019 and 2020. This year, a different kind of algae bloom has occurred; one that does not appear to be blue-green algae based. What was suspected to be a spill of some kind was observed around Kent Bridge and reported to Chatham-Kent Fire Service on the evening of Monday August 2nd. Rather than being blue-green in colour, the bloom was brown and caused quite a bit of concern to local residents as it appeared to be some kind of oil or gasoline spill. This was reported to the Spills Action Centre and MECP staff responded on August 3rd to investigate. Patches of algae bloom were noted from Kent Bridge down through the city of Chatham on August 3rd. By August 4th, the bloom had developed in Chatham and it became clear that this was bloom rather than a spill. However, Chatham-Kent and the LTVCA still received numerous inquiries from the public concerned about what appeared to be a spill. As of August 10th, the bloom had extended upstream to Melbourne Road and downstream as far as Parc Parry Landing Park. Over the last few years, algae blooms on the river have tended to persist for several weeks to a couple of months. As in past years, LTVCA staff were out in the field determining the extent of the bloom and collecting samples for research purposes. Information about this current bloom is still being gathered and analysed.



Potential algae bloom (dark brown streaks) on the Thames River at Kent Bridge - August 2021.

10.2.6) Information Technology

Staff had been working on meeting our insurance company's requirements to implement Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) by the end of July. A vendor was selected and implementation had commenced. During the software installation, there was an incompatibility discovered between the Cisco router used at the Administration Office and the software. The vendor decided to reprogram their software to make it compatible with this router. However, this meant that the LTVCA did not meet its deadline to get this implemented by the end of July.

As of August 11^{th,} the software vendor still has not updated their software to support our hardware and we cannot proceed with VPN MFA until this has been completed on their end. In the meantime, half of the office has already been setup with MFA for their email and cloud storage accounts and the remaining should be completed by August 13th.

The reports align with the following objectives of the LTVCA's Strategic Plan:

- 2. Strengthen and Increase Collaboration with Community Stakeholders
- 3. Increase the Awareness of the Value of Good Watershed Stewardship
- 4. Improve Capital Asset Review

10.3) Planning and Regulations

10.3.1) Planning

From June 1st to the end of July 31st, there have been 82 planning submissions reviewed by staff with respect to the Provincial Policy Statement, Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 152/06. On average it takes roughly 5 days to respond to submissions, ranging from same day response to 15 days for more involved planning submissions. There have also been 58 phone calls that have been dealt with in that time frame, with more proponents reaching out to staff via email (numbers not tracked).

Planning	2019	2020	Jan	Feb-	Apr-	Jun-	2021 Totals
Numbers	Totals	Totals	totals	Mar	May	Jul	
				totals	totals	totals	
Chatham-	150	259	13	55	63	60	191
Kent							
Elgin	76	67	6	13	21	9	49
Essex	16	46	3	7	6	6	22
Middlesex	48	35	5	8	9	7	29
Total	290	407	27	83	99	82	291
Numbers							

*OP, ZBL, OPA, ZBLA, Consents, Minor Variances, Plans of Subdivision, Legal Inquiries

Staff involved in plan review activities are undertaking work from home, with COVID 19 Standard Operating Procedures in place as well as work from home plans, as well as starting to work a few days in the office. Several conference call / zoom meetings have taken place with proponents / consultants / agencies / member municipalities and counties around planning matters. Several site inspections have also taken place, keeping in mind COVID protocols. Planning services continue to be used / accessed by the public, our member municipalities and other agencies via telephone and email communication at this time.

10.3.2) Section 28 Regulations / Permitting

In the months of June and July, the LTVCA received 150 permit applications with respect to Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 152/06. Of the 446 permit applications received in the first seven months of 2021, all but 44 had been approved by staff. Three applications were approved by the Executive Committee, three applications require yet to be scheduled hearings, six applications were cancelled by the applicants, and the remaining 32 applications were in the queue to be reviewed by staff as of the end of July. In addition, there was a hearing held in March for a 2020 permit application, that application was refused by the Executive Committee.

The regulations program continues to experience a very strong demand for resources. The number of permit applications received in the first five months of the year was more than the program sees for the entire 12 months of a "normal" year. The number of permit applications received thus far in 2021 eclipses every single year prior to 2019. At the current pace, the number of applications is set to eclipse the 2019 record possibly by the end of August and the 2020 record possibly by early fall.

In an attempt to keep pace with the demand and to support the Regulations Technician, the Resources Technician and Water Resources Engineer continue to help with processing permits and responding to regulations inquiries. Given the continuing and increasing stresses on the program since the last board update, the GIS Technician continues to complete the surveying duties. Continued support from the above staff members, as a minimum, is expected to be needed for the foreseeable future. There is no foreseeable decline in service demand for the future.

\$102,950 has been collected thus far this year (as of the end of July) in application and hearing fees. It is anticipated that 2021 will be another record-setting year for permit fee revenues.

Permit Processing Timelines:

For applications issued since the last board report and up to the end of May, the charts and table below indicate that 100% of "routine", 54% of "minor", and 0% of "major" permit applications met their applicable turnaround time standard. Permit turnaround times continue to lag behind the LTVCA's customer service standards.



Complexity of	# of Days to Review Permit Applications						
Application	0 - 14 Days	15 - 21 Days	21 - 28 Days	29 - 90 Days	> 90 Days		
Routine	20	0	0	0	0		
Minor	28	40	25	33	0		
Major	0	0	0	0	2		

For the months of June and July, the average turnaround time for a routine permit application was one day (ranged between 0 and 6 days). The average turnaround time for a minor permit application was 23 days (ranged between 0 and 76 days). The two "major" permit applications took 133 and 139 days to process. For private property permits, the average turnaround time was 25 days.

Property Inquiries:

Up to the end of May, 981 property inquiries (including permit pre-consultation questions) were received and responded to by the Regulations Technician which is 293 more since the last board report. At the time of writing of this staff report, the current response time to property and pre-consultation inquiries is approximately 10 business days for e-mails and 15 business days for phone calls.

Section 28 Enforcement:

In the first seven months of 2021, 35 complaints / tips were received from the public about possible Section 28 enforcement issues. Historically, the LTVCA receives approximately 30 complaints/tips regarding Section 28 enforcement per year.

25 of the 35 issues are confirmed violations or potential violations of the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 152/06. Two of the 25 confirmed or potential violations have been resolved.

The reports align with the following objectives of the LTVCA's Strategic Plan:

- 2. Strengthen and Increase Collaboration with Community Stakeholders
- 3. Increase the Awareness of the Value of Good Watershed Stewardship

10.3.3) O. Reg. 152/06 Permit Applications

(Up to July 31, 2021)									
App No.	Location	Community/ Township	Municipality	Decision	Processing Time (days)				
137-2021	234 Detroit Line	Wheatley	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 29, 2021	133				
144-2021	5293 Tecumseh Line	Tilbury East	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 16, 2021	139				
207-2021	Edgewood West Subdivision	Mount Brydges	Strathroy-Caradoc	Granted: June 18, 2021	66				
213-2021	45 Brock Street	Shrewsbury	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 30, 2021	76				
246-2021	14 Russell Street	Shrewsbury	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 03, 2021	2				
247-2021	Frederick Marsh Drain	Mosa	Southwest Middlesex	Granted: June 11, 2021	39				
251-2021	39 Oriole Parkway	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 16, 2021	36				
252-2021	7 South Hampton Way	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 16, 2021	42				
258-2021	11331 Wildwood Line	Rondeau	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 03, 2021	28				
265-2021	21824 Communication Road	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 03, 2021	18				
267-2021	35246 Fourth Line	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: June 03, 2021	9				
269-2021	49 Dundee Drive	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 03, 2021	17				
270-2021	45 Dundee Drive	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 03, 2021	17				
271-2021	19 Dundee Drive	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 03, 2021	16				
272-2021	23747 Dashwheel Road	Tilbury East	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 30, 2021	36				
273-2021	Mynard Drain	Tilbury East	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 03, 2021	8				
274-2021	102 Bayview Drive	Shrewsbury	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 03, 2021	16				
275-2021	Allison Line @ Lucas Drain Extension	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 18, 2021	4				
276-2021	1030 Kerr Avenue	Erieau	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 06, 2021	47				
277-2021	101 Grassland Grove	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 08, 2021	19				
278-2021	105 Grassland Grove	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 08, 2021	19				
279-2021	109 Grassland Grove	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 09, 2021	20				
280-2021	111 Grassland Grove	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 10, 2021	21				
281-2021	115 Grassland Grove	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 10, 2021	21				
282-2021	119 Grassland Grove	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 10, 2021	21				
283-2021	123 Grassland Grove	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 10, 2021	21				
284-2021	127 Grassland Grove	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 10, 2021	21				
285-2021	148 Arrowhead Lane	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 10, 2021	21				
286-2021	152 Arrowhead Lane	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 10, 2021	21				
287-2021	156 Arrowhead Lane	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 10, 2021	21				
288-2021	160 Arrowhead Lane	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 10, 2021	21				
289-2021	6453 Third Line	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 08, 2021	41				
290-2021	272 Detroit Line	Wheatley	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 20, 2021	63				
292-2021	19090 Haven Avenue	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Granted: July 08, 2021	39				
294-2021	195 Island Crescent	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Granted: June 16, 2021	16				
295-2021	5263 Tecumseh Line	Tilbury East	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 23, 2021	23				
296-2021	South Creek Subdivision, Gillam Drain	Mount Brydges	Strathroy-Caradoc	Granted: June 23, 2021	27				
297-2021	23722 Downie Line	Aldborough	West Elgin	Granted: June 24, 2021	28				
298-2021	20300 Tecumseh Road	Tilbury West	Lakeshore	Granted: July 08, 2021	38				
299-2021	23250 Kent Bridge Road	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 23, 2021	22				

Staff Report

O.Reg. 152/06 Permit Applications (Up to July 31, 2021)

B.D. 08/19/2021

O.Reg. 152/06 Permit Applications (Up to July 31, 2021)

			-		
App No.	Location	Community/ Township	Municipality	Decision	Processing Time (days)
300-2021	Winterline Road @ Rivard Drain	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 09, 2021	38
301-2021	Winterline Road @ Cadotte, Jack's Creek, & Gowrie Drain	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 09, 2021	38
302-2021	Winterline Road @ Gowrie Drain	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 09, 2021	38
303-2021	415 Towanda Boulevard	Erie Beach	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 03, 2021	1
304-2021	19070 Light Cove Avenue	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Granted: July 08, 2021	35
307-2021	19190 Bluewater Avenue	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Granted: July 8, 2021	34
308-2021	15 Judith Place	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 23, 2021	19
309-2021	11896 Bates Drive	Morpeth	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 23, 2021	20
311-2021	Duplessis Drive	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Granted: June 23, 2021	18
312-2021	McTaggart Drain	Ektrid	Southwest Middlesex	Granted: June 07, 2021	0
313-2021	145 Arrowhead Lane	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 24, 2021	16
314-2021	144 Arrowhead Lane	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 24, 2021	16
315-2021	141 Arrowhead Lane	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 24, 2021	16
316-2021	140 Arrowhead Lane	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 24, 2021	16
317-2021	137 Arrowhead Lane	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 24, 2021	16
318-2021	136 Arrowhead Lane	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 24, 2021	16
319-2021	133 Arrowhead Lane	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 24, 2021	16
320-2021	132 Arrowhead Lane	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 24, 2021	16
321-2021	11716 River Line	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 10, 2021	2
322-2021	685 Tisdelle Drive	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Granted: July 08, 2021	27
323-2021	11538 Longwoods Road	Kent Bridge	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 10, 2021	1
324-2021	Talbot Trail @ McGregor Drain	Blenheim	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 20, 2021	41
325-2021	124 Grassland Grove	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 25, 2021	15
326-2021	128 Grassland Grove	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 25, 2021	15
327-2021	131 Grassland Grove	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 25, 2021	15
328-2021	132 Grassland Grove	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 25, 2021	15
329-2021	135 Grassland Grove	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 25, 2021	15
330-2021	136 Grassland Grove	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 25, 2021	15
331-2021	140 Grassland Grove	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 25, 2021	15
332-2021	144 Grassland Grove	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 25, 2021	15
333-2021	20802 Cemetery Road	Romney	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 28, 2021	62
335-2021	Government Drain #4	Tilbury West	Lakeshore	Granted: June 11, 2021	0
336-2021	Currie Road @ McCaffrey Drain & Nagy Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: June 23, 2021	12
337-2021	Currie Road @ McLean Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: June 23, 2021	12
338-2021	Chalmers Line @ Peter Duncanson Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: June 23, 2021	12

Staff Report

O.Reg. 152/06 Permit Applications

B.D. 08/19/2021

(Up to July 31, 2021)

App No.	Location	Community/ Township	Municipality	Decision	Processing Time (days)
339-2021	Chalmers Line @ Currie Extension / Currie Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: June 23, 2021	12
340-2021	Chalmers Line @ William McCullum Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: June 23, 2021	12
341-2021	20966 Cemetery Road	Wheatley	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 28, 2021	17
342-2021	Hill Road @ McDiarmid Drain	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 23, 2021	12
343-2021	Hill Road @ Upper Portion Cartmill Drain	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 23, 2021	12
344-2021	Talbot Trail @ Outlet. Cartmill Drain	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 23, 2021	12
345-2021	Talbot Trail @ Bechard Drain	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 23, 2021	12
346-2021	McKinlay Road @ Wilcox Drain	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 23, 2021	12
347-2021	McKinlay Road @ Outlet Cartmill Drain	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 23, 2021	12
348-2021	50 Dundee Drive	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 28, 2021.	13
349-2021	34 Dundee Drive	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 28, 2021	13
350-2021	129 Arrowhead Lane	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 25, 2021.	10
351-2021	128 Arrowhead Lane	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 25, 2021	10
352-2021	125 Arrowhead Lane	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 25, 2021	10
353-2021	5th Concession Line over Horton Drain	Romney	Chatham-kent	Granted: June 24, 2021	8
354-2021	43 William Street North	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 17, 2021	1
356-2021	21327 Gray Line	Aldborough	West Elgin	Granted: July 08, 2021	22
357-2021	4723 Hyndman Drive	Ekfrid	Southwest Middlesex	Granted: June 18, 2021	0
358-2021	19089 Lakeside Drive	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Granted: July 08, 2021	20
359-2021	Bennet Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: June 21, 2021	3
360-2021	Winterline Road @ Cadotte, Jack's Creek, & Gowrie Drain	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 12, 2021	24
361-2021	Rushton Drain	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 21, 2021	0
368-2021	30 Dundee Drive	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 21, 2021	29
369-2021	Gammage Drain	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 22, 2021	0
370-2021	8847 Highway 77	Tilbury West	Lakeshore	Granted: June 22, 2021	0
372-2021	22499 Gray Line - A16	Aldborough	West Elgin	Granted: June 28, 2021	13
373-2021	22499 Gray Line - M1	Aldborough	West Elgin	Granted: July 06, 2021	21
374-2021	22499 Gray Line - A2	Aldborough	West Elgin	Granted: July 06, 2021	62
375-2021	5th Concession Road Drain	Tilbury North	Lakeshore	Granted: June 25, 2021	1
376-2021	139 Grassland Grove	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 20, 2021	26
377-2021	143 Grassland Grove	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 20, 2021	26
378-2021	147 Grassland Grove	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 20, 2021	26

Staff Report

O.Reg. 152/06 Permit Applications (Up to July 31, 2021)

Community/ Processing App No. Location Decision Municipality Township Time (days) Chatham-Kent 379-2021 151 Grassland Grove Chatham Granted: July 20, 2021. 26 380-2021 155 Grassland Grove Chatham Chatham-Kent Granted: July 20, 2021 26 381-2021 159 Grassland Grove Chatham Chatham-Kent Granted: July 20, 2021. 26 382-2021 163 Grassland Grove Chatham Chatham-Kent Granted: July 20, 2021. 26 384-2021 Granted: July 20, 2021 42 23309 Dillon Road Raleigh Chatham-Kent 385-2021 164 Grassland Grove Chatham Chatham-Kent Granted: July 21, 2021. 26 386-2021 160 Grassland Grove Chatham Chatham-Kent Granted: July 21, 2021 26 387-2021 Granted: July 21, 2021 26 156 Grassland Grove Chatham Chatham-Kent 388-2021 152 Grassland Grove Chatham Chatham-Kent Granted: July 21, 2021. 26 389-2021 148 Grassland Grove Chatham Chatham-Kent Granted: July 21, 2021. 26 390-2021 Granted: June 30, 2021 Sterling Drain Dover Chatham-Kent 5 St. Pierre Drain and Granted: July 02, 2021 7 391-2021 Dower Chatham-Kent Branches 392-2021 Pinsonneault Drain Dover Chatham-Kent Granted: July 02, 2021 7 Ellwood Drain Culvert 393-2021 Orford Chatham-Kent 7 Granted: July 02, 2021 (Glassford Road) 394-2021 3 23 Braemar Boulevard Chatham Chatham-Kent Granted: June 28, 2021 395-2021 350 Colborne Street Chatham Chatham-Kent Granted: July 21, 2021 24 396-2021 Government #3 Drain Tilbury West Lakeshore. Granted: July 02, 2021 з 397-2021 Government Drain #4 Romney. Chatham-Kent Granted: June 30, 2021 0 398-2021 124 Arrowhead Lane Granted: July 30, 2021 32 Chatham Chatham-Kent 399-2021 120 Arrowhead Lane Chatham Chatham-Kent Granted: July 30, 2021 32 400-2021 108 Arrowhead Lane Chatham Chatham-Kent Granted: July 30, 2021. 32 401-2021 104 Arrowhead Lane Chatham Chatham-Kent Granted: July 30, 2021 32 402-2021 64 Arrowhead Lane Chatham Chatham-Kent Granted: July 30, 2021 32 32 403-2021 60 Arrowhead Lane Chatham Chatham-Kent Granted: July 30, 2021 404-2021 36 Arrowhead Lane Chatham Chatham-Kent Granted: July 30, 2021 32 405-2021 52 Arrowhead Lane Chatham Chatham-Kent Granted: July 30, 2021. 32 406-2021 **88 Arrowhead Lane** Chatham-Kent Granted: July 30, 2021 31 Chatham Granted: July 30, 2021 31 407-2021 84 Arrowhead Lane Chatham Chatham-Kent 408-2021 80 Arrowhead Lane Chatham Chatham-Kent Granted: July 30, 2021 31 409-2021 76 Arrowhead Lane Chatham Chatham-Kent Granted: July 30, 2021 31 411-2021 8809 Morris Street lona **Dutton Dunwich** Granted: July 02, 2021 3 412-2021 25 92 Arrowhead Lane Chatham Chatham-Kent Granted: July 30, 2021. 413-2021 96 Arrowhead Lane Chatham Chatham-Kent Granted: July 30, 2021 25 414-2021 Chatham-Kent 25 100 Arrowhead Lane Chatham Granted: July 30, 2021. 415-2021 112 Arrowhead Lane 25 Chatham Chatham-Kent Granted: July 30, 2021 416-2021 4481 Falconbridge Drive Granted: July 05, 2021 Ektrid Southwest Middlesex 6 Ektrid 418-2021 21298 Springfield Drive Southwest Middlesex Granted: July 06, 2021 1 423-2021 6172 Talbot Trail Raleich Chatham-Kent Granted: July 12, 2021. 1 424-2021 12 Homestead Crescent Chatham Chatham-Kent Granted: July 12, 2021 O. Granted: July 13, 2021 426-2021 Brule Drain Tilbury West 0 Lakeshore 435-2021 **McFarlane Drain** Dunwich **Dutton Dunwich** Granted: July 27, 2021 а.
10.4) Conservation Area Lands

10.4.1) Conservation Area Visitation, June 1 – July 31, 2021

Longwoods Road Conservation Area – 1,242 people (1,224 in 2020) (Includes 2 people per pay & display permit (transaction) Pay and Display Permits – 621 vehicles (612 in 2020)

E.M. Warwick Conservation Area - 150 people (120 in 2020)

Big Bend Conservation Area - 1,125 people (478 in 2020)

C.M. Wilson Conservation Area – 7,924 people (4,561 in 2020) (Includes 2 people per pay & display permit (transaction) Pay and Display Permits – 265 vehicles (256 in 2020)

Sharon Creek Conservation Area - 635 Day Use Transactions on MacKay Pay (729 transactions in 2020)

2021 Parking Passes - 66 sold in June/July 2021 (110 sold June/July 2020)

10.4.2) Conservation Areas

Ontario Job Creation Program-applied for both East and West and both approved for 4 new hires total

Eastern District

Sharon Creek CA-statistics are difficult to track at this property, but most likely our busiest day use area, with regular daily visitation and weekend visitors numbering well over 200 people. As such it is important to provide good quality amenities.

A new dock has been built and installed by our crew, for general public use and the London Canoe Club watercraft launching





E.M. Warwick CA- our Oneida First Nation partnership continues to provide good results. Pictured here planting a new Tall Grass Prairie at EM Warwick Conservation Area.

Big Bend CA- additional river camp sites are doing well this year with strong interest, campground looks great with updated signage, new trails and overall user improvements.

Western District



Rowsom CA- Thanks to a grant, from *Evolugen* (formerly Brookfield Energy) 3 new pedestal signs were designed by our Education staff, and installed along the trail. Complete with QR Codes, these are interactive signs that educate about: Carolinian Forest, Wetlands and the Big Creek Watersheds.

Big "O" CA - the newly acquired land adjacent to highway 77 has been planted in Tall Grass Prairie and a variety of Oak tree species. Staff have completed a "high mow" to limit weed establishment. A newly engraved boulder has been installed at the trail head, and a planned new trail will go in this upcoming fall.

Skakel CA- this nature reserve is currently off limits to the general public, plans are underway to shift the McKinlay Memorial Forest program plantings to this site and potentially open this up to the public.

Ward CA- staff have completed a Managed Forest Tax Plan for this newer property and as such will be conducting some forest management this fall/winter. An additional 500 trees were planted this spring, at this Nature Reserve property.

CM Wilson CA- another busy camping season is well underway with 56 Seasonal Campers.

A new pond aerator system is installed and up and running, staff are planning on restocking Crappie, Sunfish, Blue gill and Perch next spring.

Several events have been planned including: live concert by Deep Southwest, Education Staff teaching events, and a community mural painting being done by our Camper families.



Local Artist: Jennifer Goodal donated her time and painted several new pieces for our Historic Barn.

Conservation Area Guidebook - now in our second year, staff raised over \$7000 in sponsorships, and did a great job promoting our properties. The guidebook showcases our 18 public Conservation Areas. Copies will be distributed throughout the watershed, and will be available at Longwoods Road Resource Centre and our Administration office in Chatham.



Annual Parking Permits - Strong interest continues, and being half way through the calendar year are running a buy one get second half off promotion.

10.5) Conservation Services

10.5.1) Stewardship Report

West Update: Wetland projects continue to be completed and new projects are being planned. The Chatham-Kent Natural Heritage Implementation Strategy is also being reviewed and a report to council is being prepared to inform Chatham-Kent Councillors on progress in light of the temporary woodlot by-law.

Conservation Ontario Survey was completed for this year. Invoicing partners and landowners for projects completed is in full swing. Plans for a self guided tour are shaping up. The tour will be on September 2. A map is being produced of sites that include old and new reforestation sites, wetland sites, and will showcase our LID project at our office at 100 Thames St Chatham as well as some of the innovative agriculture & forestry at Walter Devereaux CA. The map will be interactive for participants and will end at the Red Barn Brewery. Brian Gilvesy of ALUS Canada will be the key note speaker.

Species at Risk sign placement is being coordinated with Chatham-Kent Roads Department and should be installed by fall. Road allowances are also being identified for the potential to plant trees or pollinator species to enhance roadsides for 2022.

Drainage Projects: Two major projects in partnership with CK Drainage and DFO have been completed. The North Marsh Drain received 3m pollinator buffers on both sides as well as 150cm tree stock, widely spaced to accommodate drain maintenance. The McKinlay wetland is an online flood expansion project to increase high water capacity, improve sediment and nutrient capture while improving crop ability of adjacent farmland.

Ducks Unlimited and Imagine McGregor We are assisting Ducks Unlimited on landowner driven projects for wetlands throughout Southwestern Ontario. For any type of stewardship project within the McGregor Creek sub-watershed, we are working with landowners to come up with a habitat restoration project they are happy with. Imagine McGregor staff are developing a Conservation Action Plan, which has detailed goals, and then actions we will take to achieve these goals. As part of the action plan, an outreach plan has been created to help lay out exactly what we want to do to engage citizens through social media and press releases. With that, staff have created a logo for the project, and we had citizens vote on a catch phrase to involve them in its creation. They have chosen "**the creek connecting people & nature!**" to go at the bottom of the logo.

Two grants for community events have been applied to so far and have received the go ahead to host a community planting with the Sunrise Rotary this fall.

On September 2nd there will be a booth for the Imagine McGregor Project at the Cultivating Conservation stewardship tour that the LTVCA is hosting. The goal will be to talk about the program as well as discuss Low Impact Development (LID) Projects undertaken at the LTVCA office. As the Imagine McGregor Project has a significant urban component which includes LID solutions staff will use this opportunely to gage interest in undertaking further LID workshops that would be hosted later in the year.

LTVCA is hosting a paddle cleanup event for the Thames River and McGregor Creek on September 25th. It will be based out of Thames Grove Conservation Area with donated garbage bags and recycling bins. LTVCA staff will be encouraging people to bring kayaks and canoes to help collect garbage from the river, the creek and their shores. We are involving several local businesses in the event and giving away t-shirts and garbage collection bags to participants. We are also

wanting to offer business, who come as a team, the opportunity to compete against other teams to see who can collect the most garbage for a prize. A group of us paddled up McGregor Creek this past week and we've found that the creek is definitely in need of some love. There was quite a bit of visible garbage as well as large algae blooms in some areas. In respect to the garbage, hopefully the paddle cleanup on the 25th will help with that as well as the similar future events we plan on hosting. The algae will be harder to directly address, but hopefully by increasing native habitat and with the other goals we have, we will be able to make the whole creek more pleasant to paddle. We do want to investigate the cause of the algal bloom further as it seemed to be isolated to a specific part of the creek.

Tree Planting Partnerships/Events

We had a great event Saturday morning planting at Mud Creek. Greg Van Every was kind enough to deliver 16 trays of plugs (thank you Lindsay Buchanan of ONS - they look amazing!) and stick around to plant with us for a couple of hours.

Both sides of the bank are done north of Tweedsmuir - some areas are planted a little more densely than others if there wasn't already existing vegetation. We received many positive comments from people out walking and a few neighbours that came over to ask us what we were up to. All very supportive and encouraging!





Mud Creek pollinator planting with ReLeaf CK

Current Partner Contributions:

PLT has granted two 16-week positions to assist Conservation Services.

Two consultant firms have approached the LTVCA with interest in mitigation work entailing prairie and reforestation projects.

Conservation Ontario was awarded 9 million dollars for stewardship projects from the Federal Government (across all 36 CA's). LTVCA has been successful in attaining some of those funds and more details will follow in the coming weeks.

ALUS Chatham-Kent Update

ALUS Chatham-Kent is busy with finalizing all projects for the year and getting contracts signed. Most projects are in the ground other than a few wetlands. The Interim Report was submitted to ALUS Canada at the beginning of July to notify all funders on the progress we have made this year. We are on target to add 98 acres to the program for 2021.

ALUS Chatham-Kent, ALUS Elgin and ALUS Middlesex will be collaborating on an outreach event at a participants and PAC member's farm in Elgin County on August 18, 2021. This event will feature a farm tour, guest speakers and food. Another event, ALUS Chatham-Kent will be participating in is the Cultivating Conservation tour being hosted by the LTVCA on September 2, 2021.

Amanda Blain the current ALUS Chatham-Kent program coordinator will start maternity leave on September 17, 2021 and the LTVCA is currently hiring her replacement.

East Update: The warm weather in the summer months has brought forward lots of planting opportunities – assisting with the LTVCA-Enbridge shoreline prairie plantings and working on public plantings with different organizations. In-field project planning and supervising is on-going, with different wetland and prairie projects being completed. The east has been working extensively with Ducks Unlimited, Elgin Clean Water Program, and the Elgin Stewardship Council to complete and approve funding for these projects. This collaborative effort results in high number of projects being completed and greening our landscape.

ALUS Middlesex

Interim reports for ALUS Canada were completed and finalised mid-July, with early data showing that ALUS Middlesex is on track to meet the end-of-year targets. The summer months have proved to be a busy time for outreach, with ALUS Middlesex serving as a speaker at the London Environmental Network Protecting Our Waterways Volunteer Workshop and working with ALUS Canada to highlight an ALUS Middlesex participant for their Ontario Trillium recognition event. ALUS Middlesex was also able to organise and complete two volunteer prairie planting projects, with Chippewa of the Thames First Nation and Heeman's Garden Centre. Farmer liaisons for ALUS Middlesex have been busy completing annual monitoring of project sites, and recently attended and received additional training from ALUS Canada.



Volunteers from the Antler River Rally and the London Environmental Network are seen planting native prairie plugs - helping to enhance an ALUS project on the Chippewa of the Thames

Summer Outreach

Cultivating Conservation Tour (Sept. 2, 2021)

While keeping COVID best practices and recommendations in mind, the LTVCA Stewardship team has planned an in-person project site tour sure to engage the watershed community. The goal of this event is to cultivate a conservation mindset in both urban and rural settings.

This family friendly, free event will take place at 4 project sites with LTVCA staff available to answer questions and explain the restoration work that

CULTIVATING CONSERVATION TOUR



took place at the location. Additionally, there are two projects sites for participants to simply drive by and view. Each project site that was selected will highlight specific and important environmental issues and the solutions implemented to improve the resiliency of the Thames River subwatershed. At the project sites, attendees will have the opportunity to learn about soil health, regional water quality research, woodlot management, marginal land restoration, species at risk, and urban low impact development. To learn more about the sites: refer to the below google map:

https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/1/edit?mid=1NbQu02Vp8xIVKTRxMtZS_bkw0hirc7hs&usp=sharing

After visiting the sites, the guests will make their way to Red Barn Brewing Company – a new restoration project – for dinner and refreshments while ALUS Speaker Katherine Balpataky talks to participants about conservation impact.

Itinerary: September 2nd, 2021 3 pm – 8 pm

3 pm - 6 pm - Self exploration of projects sites with tours and Q&A with Stewardship Staff
6 pm - 7 pm - Red Barn Brewing project tour, dinner and speaker.
7 pm - 8 pm - Question and Answer session, Door Prize Giveaway and wrap up.

Register here: https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/164359619045

Registration Closes Aug. 27th, 2021

On-Farm Applied Research & Monitoring (ONFARM) Program



The ONFARM Program was launched during December of 2019, with the goal to support the agricultural sector to strengthen environmental stewardship, enhance water quality, and improve soil health. The project is being administered by the Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA) and is funded by the Canadian Agricultural Partnership. The LTVCA is one of five Conservation Authorities that is conducting high intensity environmental monitoring in the former Great Lakes Agricultural Stewardship Initiative (GLASI) priority subwatersheds.

The LTVCA recently created a short video to describe the project and to showcase the 20km2 Jeannettes Creek study subwatershed. Furthermore, preliminary nutrient loading results were discussed in the video. The video will be used during the St. Clair Soil & Crop Improvement Association Self Guided Twilight Tour from August 5th-11th to provide regional farmers with information on the project. The general public can also view the video at the LTVCA Youtube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TON9EreMDXM

CAP and ECCC: McGregor and Jeannettes Creek Phosphorus Reduction Program (MJCPRP) McGregor and Jeannettes Creek Subwatershed Monitoring & Modeling

LTVCA project staff continued to collect water quality samples and flow data at monitoring stations in the McGregor and Jeannettes Creek subwatershed during the Summer of 2021. Monthly precipitation totals during June and July were higher than the 30-year average for the region at the station located north of Merlin Ontario.



LTVCA Merlin Station Measured Precipitation (2019-2021) Compared to 30 Year

East of Merlin, in the Jeannettes and McGregor Creek subwatersheds, much higher volumes of rain were recorded. The below chart illustrates the total monthly rainfall recorded at the TRPRC filter tank pilot site southeast of Chatham. During June greater than 200mm of rainfall was recorded, greatly exceeding historical averages for the month. On June 26th, 104mm of rainfall was observed in a 5 hour period at the site. This was one of most intense rainfall events observed since the LTVCA began monitoring operations at the site. Similar levels of rainfall were observed throughout the subwatersheds during this period. This Summer, LTVCA staff have collected water samples during 3 significant flow events.



All collected water quality data will be used to calculate nutrient loads. Furthermore, University of Guelph Water Resource Engineers will use the collected data to configure the subwatershed Soil & Water Assessment Tool (SWAT) models. The SWAT models will be used to estimate the phosphorus reductions that result from the implementation of agricultural BMPs.

Sampling, monitoring, and modeling activities are funded in part by the following agencies and organizations:

- 1. Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC): Great Lakes Protection Initiative (GLPI)
- 2. Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) Canadian Agricultural Partnership
- 3. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) Canadian Agricultural Partnership
- 4. Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA) Administer the ONFARM project

MJCPRP Best Management Practice (BMP) Incentive Program

On February 15th of 2021, the LTVCA relaunched the McGregor & Jeannettes Creek Phosphorus Reduction BMP Incentive program for 2021. 34 applications were approved for funding prior to the program budget being fully allocated. If all projects proceed as planned this could result in \$102,000.00 in financial contributions to support the implementation of the following BMPs:

- Cover Crops: 3,160 acres
- Grid or Zone Soil Sampling: 5,600 acres
- Alternative Phosphorus Application Practices: 5,000 acres
- Erosion Control Projects: 2 projects

The BMP incentive program is solely funded by an Environment & Climate Change Canada (ECCC) Great Lakes Protection Initiative contribution agreement. This agreement

will conclude on March 31st of 2022. In the future the LTVCA will need to assess if the BMP incentive program will be offered beyond 2021 and how it could be funded.



LTVCA: Soil Health Program

The LTVCA Soil Health Program officially launched on February 3rd of 2021. The LTVCA approved 68 projects, prior to the program budget being fully allocated. If all the approved projects proceed as planned, the LTVCA Soil Health Program will support the planting of 10,040 acres of cover crops and 5,430 acres of grid or zone soil sampling in the watershed during 2021. This could result in the program providing \$124,366.00 in financial contributions to farmers to implement soil health projects.

With wheat harvest complete, farmers have started to plant cover crops and have began soil sampling. As such, inquiries have increased regarding funding availability and the program claim process. LTVCA staff are now starting the process of validating claim submissions, so contribution cheques can be mailed to the farmers who have completed projects.



The Soil Health program is funded by an Environment & Climate Change Canada (ECCC) Great Lakes Protection Initiative contribution agreement. The agreement expires during March of 2022, the LTVCA will need to identify and secure additional funding sources to offer this program again during 2022.

10.5.3) Aquatic Species at Risk (SAR)



The Aquatic SAR Crew has now visited eight field sites in the lower Thames River watershed, conducting eDNA sampling, seining surveys for fish and timed searches for mussel SAR.

Additional funds have been received from Fisheries and Oceans Canada's (DFO's) Canada Nature Fund for Aquatic Species at Risk (CNFASAR) to conduct landowner contact to determine interest in livestock exclusion fencing and alternate watering sources, prepare a technical report on how to conduct an aquatic threat assessment for species at risk and to design and install interpretive signs related to fish and mussel SAR at five conservation authority properties along the Thames River and in Rondeau Bay.

In addition, Environment and Climate Change Canada has approved partial funding in the amount of \$47,294 toward a *Habitat Identification and Creation, Species Distribution and Management Plan for Avian and Bat Species at Risk in the Mosa Forest Conservation Area* project.

10.6) Communications, Outreach and Education

10.6.1) Website Updates

Ongoing are the postings of watershed and shoreline conditions, Minutes and Agendas of Board Reports, changes in fees, updates regarding programs and services of the LTVCA and virtual/onsite events and activities. The refreshed LTVCA website will hopefully be 'live' by the Board meeting.

Our website alerts visitors of the current status of COVID-19 Pandemic health unit and government guidelines that affect our conservation area usage and our programs and services. During the pandemic the LTVCA website is updated to inform the public about the procedures we are using to respond to inquiries and requests to purchase items from the Conservation Authority as offices remain closed to the public.

10.6.2) Social Media

Since the June 17, 2021 meeting of the Board of Directors, daily social media posts on the LTVCA's general social media platforms have been issued: (**Facebook** – 2,779 followers for an increase of 42 followers; **Twitter** – 1,199 followers for an increase of 15 followers; **Instagram** – 847 followers for an increase of 42 followers), **YouTube** 82 subscribers for an increase of 5 subscribers. Posts focus on the LTVCA's ongoing programs and services, following environmental issues across our watershed, how we are social adapting to the COVID-19 Pandemic and keeping public informed.

The Ska-Nah-Doht Village's Facebook page currently has 2,314 followers for an increase of 79 followers and is managed by the Curator of Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum.

Posts are circulated daily to Directors of the LTVCA and Foundation, First Nations Communities, Municipal Councils/Clerks/CAO's, MP's and MPP's, Ska-Nah-Doht Advisory Committee, all staff, Conservation Ontario, and watershed media (as needed).

We have reinforced the importance of all the COVID-19 protocols, removal of garbage and pet waste, and have encouraged visitors to support our conservation areas through payment of parking fees or purchase of 2021 parking passes.

Social Media Post Messages – June 9, 2021 – August 9, 2021

- Water Management Mondays
 - June 14: LTVCA staff conducted benthic invertebrate sampling this spring at 11 sites throughout the watershed.
 - o June 21: Shoreline Condition Statement Flood Outlook Lake Erie shoreline, Erie Shore
 - June 28: Parts of LTVCA received over 15 cm rain on weekend!
 - July 5: July Standing Message Lakes Erie St. Clair High Static Water Level
 - o July 12: Join Us for a 'Wednesday Wander' at Sharon Creek Conservation Area! July 14 10 a.m. to noon
 - o July 19: LTVCA enforces land use planning and regulations to ensure a sound basis for development
 - o July 26: Water Control Structures Protect Watershed Communities
 - August 2: We are pleased to invite you to take part in our social media campaign for the "IMAGINE MCGREGOR" project!!
 - August 9: Well the votes are in and the winning 'vision statement' for the "IMAGINE MCGREGOR" project is #1 - the creek connecting people & nature!



• Stewardship Tuesdays

- o June 10: Why Did the Turtle Cross the Road? And Should You Help It Across?
- o June 15: Shoreline Plantings Continue... Join LTVCA along with ReLeaf this Wednesday
- o June 22: Shoreline plug planting for erosion control continues at Clearville Park near Clear Creek forest
- June 29: Starting off on the right foot! Imagine McGregor initiative, Lake Morningstar in CK, enhances local ecosystem to attract more pollinators!
- July 6: LTVCA and Precision Biomonitoring Inc. used eDNA surveys using metabarcoding in Thames River and tributaries in 2020 (SAR)
- July 13: Did you know that the Eastern Sand Darter and Northern Madtom are fish that are "species at risk" found in the Thames River??
- July 20: eDNA surveys detected the Flathead Catfish (Pylodictis olivaris), a COSEWIC data-deficient species, at Big Bend Conservation Area
- July 27: Fall large stock trees available.
- August 3: Meet the Species at Risk Team!



• Conservation Area Wednesdays

- o June 9: LTVCA's Campgrounds Open Friday June 11, 2021
- o June 16: Encore! LTVCA's Campgrounds Are Open! Come Camp With Us!
- June 23: Wilson Pond Naturalization pond shoreline returning to nature!
- June 30: Updated maps posted at Big Bend Conservation Area!
- July 7: LTVCA Conserves Ecology at Prairies and Nature Preserves and "Turtle Talk" Sat. July 10 at Big Bend Conservation Area
- o July 14: JOIN US! WE ARE PAINTING A COMMUNITY MURAL!
- July 21: Special thanks to local artist Jen Goodal for her beautiful conservation themed art work now displayed in the C.M. Wilson Historic Barn.
- July 28: Conservation Areas in the Lower Thames Which is your favourite?

• August 4: C.M. Wilson Barn - rustic, historic barn available for your special event...



Outreach and Education Thursdays

- June 17: We welcome Alison Klages to LTVCA team as our new Curator of the Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum!
- June 24: Have you ordered your "Camp-in-a-Bag"'
- July 1: Canada Day "Reflect" and Longwoods Road Conservation Area "Paths and Palisades" -Thursday evenings - July 8, 15, 22 (offered again some Thursdays in August)
- o July 8: Our debut event "Paths and Palisades" at Longwoods Road Conservation Area
- July 15: Join us TONIGHT for 'Paths & Palisades'
- July 22: "Critter Catch" (& release!) This Saturday, July 24 at C.M. Wilson Conservation Area 21799
 Fargo Rd., 8.5 km south of Chatham
- o July 29: Jerry & Alison wonder if you can you name 44 Carolinian tree species?
- August 5: Sounds like school field trips are happening this fall! We're ready!



• Phosphorus / Water Quality Fridays

- o June 11: LTVCA participates in the Western Lake Erie Student Summit
- June 18: Windshield surveys completed for fields in the Big & Jeannettes Creek subwatersheds of the Thames
- June 25: Even with 30mm of rain at our edge of field sites on Sunday night, tile drains did not run.
- July 2: Pump schemes run frequently over the last week after weekend of heavy rain.
- July 9: June 26-28 saw 100+ mm of rain in many areas of Chatham-Kent.
- July 16: With summer thunderstorms continuing to roll through we've increased the number of samples we collect.

- July 23: After multiple large rain events, surface and tile runoff has been occurring often which is unusual for summer.
- July 30: After the periods of heavy rain this month the team has been busy collecting data.
- August 6: The rainfall observed this Summer has been unusual!



PLUS WE POST AND SHARE OTHERS' MESSAGES ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS:

- encourage people to use our conservation areas safely during the COVID-19 pandemic
- articles of public interest from local media regarding ecosystems and the environment, and local environmental issues (erosion, flooding, emergency preparedness, wetlands, grasslands, pollinators)
- watershed community based environmental initiatives including reposting municipal posts; sharing London Canoe Club posts (for Sharon Creek Conservation Area)
- **cool facts about nature** local plants, birds, trees, animals and thing families can do with their children to engage with nature in their own back yards or in a conservation area during the pandemic helping people to reconnect with nature
- **supporting Conservation Ontario's social media campaigns:** Healthy Hikes June AccessAbility: Nature for All at Conservation Areas as well as Healthy Hikes July For The Love Of Parks
- sharing of neighbouring Conservation Authorities' information
- **sharing of municipal public health information** CK Public Health, London Middlesex Health, St. Thomas Elgin Health, Windsor



Imagine McGregor – Communications Campaign Development Communications staff worked with the Anastasia - LTVCA Wetland Restoration Technician developing a communications plan to frame the role out of the 'Imagine McGregor' project. The campaign includes formalizing the wording for the goal of the project, writing the objectives initiated to achieve the goal, and outlining the tactics used to accomplish the desired outcomes. A landing page on our new website is one of the major needs of the project that has also been completed. A logo designed by Anastasia needed a vision statement or slogan to capture the essence of the project, so through a social media campaign we asked followers to vote on 1 of 3 proposed vision statements for the project. The most popular statement selected by the public was *'the creek connecting people & nature'*.

10.6.3) Education Programming Developments / Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum

Alison Klages – our new Curator of Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum, completed the *Community Museum Operating Grant* application. She is working on finding other funding opportunities to support our endeavours for programming and outreach across our watershed. One grant application that is in the works is the *Visit Middlesex Sponsorship Program*, which would help us develop pop-up exhibits to be displayed throughout our municipalities.

Education staff planned and are leading events over the summer at some of our other conservation areas across the LTVCA. A flier listing our new public adventures at Sharon Creek, Big Bend and C.M. Wilson Conservation Areas was posted at the conservation areas and also listed on our website.

Enjoy Our Conservation Area Events July & August 2021

All events COVID-19 health guidelines in place with maximum outdoor numbers. Usual admission fees & regulations apply. Weather permitting. Everyone welcome!

Sharon Creek Conservation Area 4212 Springer Rd. Southeast of Delaware	 Wednesday, July 14 - 10 a.m. to noon Wednesday, August 18 - 10 a.m. to noo "Wednesday Wanders" Meet Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority staff at gate for a leisurely, guided hike around Sharon Creek. Learn all about the natural wonders of this conservation area!
Big Bend Conservation Area 21239 Big Bend Rd. east of Wardsville	Saturday, July 10, starts 1:30 pm - ends 3:30 pm • Special guests John and Jan Everett "Turtle Talk" • Learn about turtles and hear the story book "Never Give Up" Saturday, August 14, starts 1:30 pm – ends 3:30 pm • "Critter Catch at the Pond"
C.M. Wilson Conservation Area 21799 Fargo Rd. 8.5 km south of Chatham	Saturday, July 24, starts 1:30 pm – ends 3:30 pm • "Critter Catch at the Pond" Saturday, August 28, starts 1:30 pm – ends 3:30 pm • Special guests John and Jan Everett "Turtle Talk" • Learn about turtles and hear the story book "Never Give Up"
Longwoods Road Conservation Area 8348 Longwoods Rd. Mount Brydges	 "Drop-in" Thursday Evenings 6pm-8pm July 8, 15, and 22 August 5, 12, and 19 "Paths and Palisades" - chat with staff along the Mill Stream Trail and inside Ska-Nah-Doht Village <i>Cover Thames</i> Sta-24220 Info@tvca.ca Itvca.ca

In July, Jerry and Alison travelled throughout the watershed to offer some off-site public programming at other conservation areas, including 'Critter Catch' at C.M. Wilson, 'Wednesday Wander' at Sharon Creek, and 'Turtle Talk' (with special guests John and Jan Everett) at Big Bend. Throughout the summer the new 'Paths and Palisades' is being offered on Thursday evenings at Longwoods Road Conservation Area.



'Critter Catch' at C.M. Wilson Conservation Area – July 24



'Wednesday Wander' at Sharon Creek Conservation Area – July 14



'Turtle Talk' at Big Bend Conservation Area with the John and Jan Everett – July 10



We were lucky to have Rachael join us again on a *Canada Summer Jobs* contract to produce our '*Camp-in-a-Bag'* program once again.



Rachael headed up 'Camp-in-a-Bag'!

Friday, August 6 the Indigenous Health Circle of professionals from London Health Sciences Centre requested to hold their team meeting inside the longhouse at Ska-Nah-Doht Village. Complimentary parking passes were provided to the group.

On Saturday, August 7 we provided two programs to 8 youth and 2 adults from the *YMCA Youth Work Exchange Program*—they toured Ska-Nah-Doht Village and made clay pots. On August 16, we will be providing a virtual program for the *Middlesex County Library* system, presenting our Sky Woman story outreach.

The indoor museum is preparing to reopen, hopefully on September 7, 2021. This means reorganizing the museum space and exhibits in order to keep our displays, staff, and the public safe while visit. The *Tourism Adaptation Fund* has been of immense help in this endeavour.

Jerry continues to design some beautiful, interpretive signage for our newest trail at Longwoods - 'Pollinator Pathways'.

10.6.4) Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation

Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation

The next meeting of the Foundation is September 22, 2021. In the meantime, the final report to the Ontario Trillium Foundation is due the end of August for the completed Longwoods Boardwalk project. Following this report, we will be organizing a recognition event onsite for the project, inviting Trillium, local MPP, and LTVCA and LTVCF Directors and staff to attend.

A new 'branch' of the McKinlay Woodlands Memorial Forest program is in the works at an LTVCA property in Chatham-Kent. As the Memorial Forest supported by this funeral home has been so successful at C.M. Wilson Conservation area over the past 20 years, room for trees has diminished. Although the annual public service will remain at C.M. Wilson, the planting of the memorial trees will be offsite at this new property as McKinlay's continue their efforts of reforestation throughout the municipality. A media release and small ground breaking ceremony is being planned for some time in August. Partners in this memorial forest program include the McKinlay Funeral Homes Ltd., the LTVC Foundation, the LTVCA and of course the public.

The latest arboretum sign was installed for the 'Ohio Buckeye' tree as part of the Carey Carolinian Arboretum and Trail at Longwoods Road Conservation Area. The arboretum trail is financially supported through the Foundation.



Jerry and Alison helped to install the latest arboretum sign 'Ohio Buckeye' at Longwoods Road Conservation Area – part of the Carey Carolinian Arboretum and Trail

10.7) Executive Committee Minutes – June 29, 2021

LOWER THAMES VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

TUESDAY, JUNE 29, 2021

A meeting of the Conservation Authority's Executive Committee was held on Tuesday, June 29, 2021 at the Authority's Administration Building at 100 Thames Street, Chatham, Ontario at the hour of 10:00 AM. A roll call was held with the following committee members present: T. Thompson, L. McKinlay, C. Cowell, P. Tiessen, & R. Leatham.

Also present were the following staff members: M. Peacock, J. Wintermute & V. Towsley (minutes recorder).

Note: Access for interested parties was provided to the meeting via virtual connection.

1. Call to Order

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

2. First Nations Acknowledgement

M. Peacock provided the reading of the First Nations Acknowledgement.

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

3. Adoption of the Agenda

E-2021-10 L. McKinlay – C. Cowell Moved that the Agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

4. Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

None declared.

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5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes - March 4, 2021

E-2021-11 R. Leatham – P. Tiessen Moved that the Executive Committee meeting minutes of March 4, 2021 be approved.

CARRIED

6. Motion to sit as a Hearing Board

E-2021-12 L. McKinlay – C. Cowell Moved that the Executive Committee sit as the Authority's Hearing Board.

CARRIED

Hearing #1/2021 - App#137-2021 - 234 Detroit Line, Wheatley, Ontario

The Chair introduced the Hearing Board members and the CAO to the applicant. The applicants, Mr. & Mrs. Taylor, were in attendance via remote access for the hearing. Jason Wintermute, Manager, Watershed and Information Services provided the Hearing Board with the staff report which was previously provided to the applicant and to the Executive Committee, and also provided a power point presentation regarding this application and Thames River flooding information. The applicant was provided an opportunity to be heard.

The applicant provided the Board with clarification on the proposal as submitted for approval.

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

The Chair requested that the applicants, Jason Wintermute, and Valerie Towsley leave the meeting in order that the Hearing Board could meet in camera.

> E-2021-13 P. Tiessen – L. McKinlay Moved that the Hearing Board meet 'in camera'.

CARRIED

E-2021-14 R. Leatham – C. Cowell Moved that the Hearing Board move out of the 'in camera' session.

CARRIED

Notice of decision on June 29, 2021 the Hearing Board / Executive Committee approved the application. This decision is based on the following reasons:

- It meets the requirements of the protection works standard and the access standard to the maximum extent and level possible based on site-specific conditions.
- It utilized maximum lot depth and width.
- It uses the greater of:
 - a. Erosion allowance based on a planning horizon of not less than 50 years; or,
 - b. Minimum setback from stable slope allowance of 15 m.
- It does not diminish maintenance access to existing protection works.

Approval Conditions

That the existing detached accessory structure be removed.

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- That the proposed detached accessory structure be located between the road and the existing residential structure as per the site plan received on June 15, 2021.
- That the proposed detached accessory structure be no closer to the municipal drain than the existing residential structure as per the site plan received on June 15, 2021.
- That the applicant receive planning approval and a building permit through the Municipality of Chatham-Kent.
- Upon completion of demolition and construction activities, that all disturbed areas be restored back to, or better than existing conditions.
- Construction must be completed prior to the lapsing date of the approval.
 Permission to expire 24 months from approval date.

CARRIED

The Chair advised the committee that LTVCA staff will provide the applicant the Hearing Board's decision.

Resolution Number E-2021-15

Hearing #2: App#144-2021 - 5293 Tecumseh Line, Chatham-Kent, Ontario

The Chair introduced the Hearing Board members and the CAO to the applicants. The applicants were in attendance via remote access for the hearing, and that their daughter, Amy Lucio, and their consultant, Tom Storey of Storey Samways Planning was in attendance on their behalf. Jason Wintermute, Manager, Watershed and Information Services provided the Hearing Board with the staff report which was previously provided to the applicant and to the Executive Committee, and also provided a power point presentation regarding this application. The applicant was provided an opportunity to be heard. The applicant provided the Board with clarification on the proposal as submitted for approval.

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

The Chair requested that Amy Lucio, Tom Storey, Jason Wintermute, and Valerie Towsley leave the meeting in order that the Hearing Board could meet in camera. All others on the Zoom link were thanked for their attendance and removed from the meeting.

> E-2021-16 C. Cowell – L. McKinlay Moved that the Hearing Board meet 'in camera'.

CARRIED

E-2021-17 R. Leatham – P. Tiessen Moved that the Hearing Board move out of the 'in camera' session.

CARRIED

The Chair stated that a decision on the hearing would be provided to the staff and applicant at a later date.

> E-2021-18 C. Cowell – L. McKinlay Moved that the Hearing Board sit as the Executive Committee.

> > CARRIED

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7. Other Business

None noted.

8. Adjournment

E-2021-19 L. McKinlay – P. Tiessen Moved that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Trevor Thompson Chair Mark Peacock, P. Eng. CAO/Secretary-Treasurer

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10.8) Joint Health & Safety Committee Minutes – June 4, 2021

Health & Safety Committee Meeting Minutes June 4, 2021

i. Minutes

March 2, 2021

No issues

ii. New Business

a) Eye Wash Station request

Request for eye wash single (bottle) station rather than one that attaches to a tap. These are not the same as an eyewash station. Review current stations (4) during next inspections – do not decommission. Determine what is needed to make them useful.

Check with CM Wilson to see if they currently have a single (bottle) station. Purchase a single (bottle) station with refill bottle for Longwoods and possibly CM Wilson. Stations require 2 bottles, one bottle in every field work vehicle. Order 14 refills and one (possibly 2) stations.

b) 2021 Ontario Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA) & Regulations

Books ordered June 3, 2021. One book for each worksite plus one extra.

iii. Training Updates

a. Training at Heights

Adam Gibb and Matt Laprise – completed March 29, 2021 Michael - expires April 2, 2021 – needs refresher Mark Peacock – expired – needs refresher

b. First Aid - Training Expiring in 2021

Training Expiring between March 1, 2020 now extended to December 31, 2021

- 1. Bonnie April 12 NEEDS 1 day renewal Standard with CPR C
- 2. Vicki April 17 NEEDS 1 day renewal Standard with CPR C
- 3. Mark Feb 6 NEEDS 1 day renewal Standard with CPR C
- 4. Todd Feb 27 NEEDS 2 day Standard with CPR C
- 5. Colin July 25 NEEDS 2 day Standard with CPR C
- 6. Elizabeth Philip
- 7. Melissa Abrosimoff

c. Training for use of the Authority's boat / pleasure craft license

Find out if Adam, Neil and Dan have their boating licence / and if not if they'd be willing to.

Consult with Randall

- there must be one Staff member operating the boat with the pleasure craft operator card.
- create THA for operating / launching and loading boat
- require copies of pleasure craft operator card for personnel file

Adam to review what life jackets are available /expiry date etc. for the boats. Need 6 - 8 of different sizes.

d. Chainsaw training

Local trainer Brian Kington from Workplace Safety North. Course was scheduled for April 12 & 13, but cancelled.

He has indicated that there is no local 'Train the Trainer' course, it is offered by Workplace Safety North but currently not available - \$660 pp

iv. Incidents / Accidents

Brooke Ciuman – June 1, 2021 No WSIB form submitted No injury only an incident No time taken off - no medical treatment sought by employee

v. Other business

Initial Training of Employees - Who is Responsible?

A member of the JHSC – will be the New Employee/Hire 'Trainer', responsible for:

- a. Section I of the Occupational Healthy and Safety Training for Workers or Supervisors form.
- b. Provide the Additional Training form.

Supervisor responsible for:

- a. Section II of the OHS Awareness Training for Workers or Supervisors form.
- b. Review/complete, with employee Additional Training form.
- c. Sign off on training documents and return them to the appropriate 'Trainer' so the information can be logged into the training database.

Ongoing Employee Training

Supervisor

- a. responsible for ongoing training of their employees
- b. responsible for development of Site/Job Specific SOP's, as required for new activities/equipment use etc.

Reminder to Supervisors that a Task Hazard Analysis is created with SOP's.

Additional Training form

Traffic Protection Plan has been added. Reminder that it is part of a THA, which is a supervisor responsibility.

Add

Other License/Certification required as per job description /posting? YES _____ NO _____

If Yes, Supervisor to complete:

What is required ____

1. obtain photocopy of required License/Certification and submit to their JHSC Trainer a copy to be placed in personnel file

OR

2. ensure employee receives required training to obtain License/Certification

Add

Sign off area on this form.

Virtual Health and Safety Board

One is being created.

Items below are a combination of both H&S and HR.

New Hire FORM

No Changes to Form. Form is to be used when an employee is first hired and again if they are rehired or switching funding stream.

New Employee – things to do

A LTVCA New Hire IT Form has been created. Employee IT needs to be determined prior to a position being posted to ensure appropriate services are available.

Changes to form Added - Update outlook calendar – timesheet, staff and Board of Director meetings Wording changed - Inform IT of start date if applicable for employee.

Re-hired employee – ensure that H&S Training is current and that all paperwork is complete

Request to add to form – copy of Pleasure Craft Operator's License SEE above – Additional Training form – for all License requirements

Electro fishing ask Vicki requirement re cpr/first aid

Request to add requirements for Canada Summer Jobs to the New Employee form.

Supervisor is responsible to fulfil the requirements of each grant. They are responsible for all the items on the list. Grant writer is responsible to ensure that all the requirements are fulfilled. Forward to all the supervisors. Recommend that they create their own sheet of requirements and check it off.

2021 Joint Health and Safety Committee

Worker Representative election was held on March 12, 2021 at the Staff Meeting Results:

Administration Office

- Valerie Towsley certified member, worker representative
- Amanda Blain worker representative

Longwoods Road CA

• Agnes Vriends – certified member, worker representative

Designated Employer Representative

• Todd Casier – certified member

2021 Joint Health and Safety Committee Meeting and Site Inspection Tour Schedule

- Meeting Admin Tuesday, March 2, 2021 meeting held
- Meeting Wednesday, June 2, 2021 meeting held June 4, 2021
- Meeting Wednesday, September 1, 2021
- Meeting Wednesday, December 1, 2021
- AREA 2 Inspection May 5 -completed
- AREA 4 Inspection -- May 12 completed
- AREA 3 Inspection June 9
- AREA 5 Inspection TBA
- AREA 1 Inspection TBA

*Inspections to continue to be done individually until pandemic has passed.

10.9) Wheatley Two Creeks Association Minutes – July 8, 2021

WHEATLEY TWO CREEKS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of regular meeting held July 8th 2021 at Two Creeks

ATTENDANCE: Pauline Sample, Bruce & Marj Jackson, Joe Pinsonneault, Linda & Lee Pearce, Gerry Soulliere, Lorna Bell, Mike Diesbourg, Roger Dundas, Rick Taves, Paul Knutsen, Bob & Jann Roth.

MINUTES: Moved by Phil Humphries, sec. by Rick Taves minutes be accepted as read (Carried)

AGENDA: Moved by Lorna Bell, sec. by Roger Dundas agenda be accepted as outlined (Carried)

MEMORIAL GROVES: Several posts and plaques have been replaced. Kevin Getty has been cutting the grass.

PROP. & EQUIP. : Joe Pinsonneault has cut the trails twice so far this year. Some work needs to be done on the trail going over the north culvert on the trail near the road to make it safe for driving over. It was decided to install a memorial bench near the large pavillion in Ron Haley's memory, Rick motioned, Joe sec.(Carried). The Southwest Outdoors club also wants to put a bench in the same area. It was decided that other benches could be installed when they are deemed appropriate. The pavillion has been rented for a wedding. We are still working on acquiring a UTV for work on the trails. Adam Stein will look at rebuilding the fireplace. Phil will contact Jim Wigle at Wheatley Prov. Park about acquiring fire pit grates.

CONCERTS: Our applications for the Concert and Windmill grants were denied this year. British Beat has been scheduled for Labour Day if possible.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

FINANCIAL REPORT : Our balance as of July 8th was \$50,388.20. Joe and Gerry talked to Sherry Baldwin to see if she was interested in becoming our next bookkeeper. Roger has agreed to be our new treasurer. Most of our mailed in donation requests were successful.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: It was decided to not hold elections until next year and keep the board as it is. Rick proposed contacting Randall VanWagner at L.T.V.C.A. about acquiring trilliums and other native flowers for our park, he also proposed building a Wedding Chapel near the north end of the parking lot. We would like to welcome new members Paul Knutsen and Bob & Jann Roth.

ADJOURNMENT: Roger motioned for adjournment at 7:56 pm.

11. Correspondence

11.1) Letter from the Honourable Lisa Thompson regarding updates to the Drainage Act

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

Office of the Minister

77 Grenville Street, 11th Floor Toronto, Onterio M7A 1B3 Tel: 416-326-3074 www.onterio.cs/OMAFRA

July 2, 2021

Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Alimentation et des Affaires ruraies

Bureau du ministre

77, rue Grenville, 11° étage Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1B3 Tél. : 418 326-3074 www.ontario.ca/MAAARO



Mark Peacock Chief Administrative Officer and Secretary-Treasurer Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority mark.peacock@ltvca.ca

Dear Mark Peacock:

I am pleased to write to you today to announce updates to the Drainage Act that will take effect on June 30, 2021.

As part of its plan to create a more competitive business environment, the Ontario government has amended the province's Drainage Act to reduce regulatory burden and streamline approvals for farmers, rural landowners and municipalities in undertaking drainage projects, while maintaining effective environmental standards that help to keep Ontarians safe and healthy.

The changes, implemented through a new Minister's Regulation and consequential amendments to Ontario Regulation 381/12 – Forms will:

- Provide a simplified process for eligible minor improvements to municipal drains;
- Simplify the process for approving updates to the engineer's report for changes to the design made during construction; and
- Include the list of prescribed persons that must be notified for drainage projects that are currently outlined in various sections of the Drainage Act.

As part of the government's commitment to reduce red tape, streamlining processes under the Drainage Act will not only save time and money for those undertaking projects, but will encourage the development of more small-scale green infrastructure projects that provide environmental benefits. Such projects include riparian buffers and grassed waterways, to improve water quality and reduce flooding.



Good things grow in Ontario A bonne terre, bons produits Ministry Headquartens: 1 Stone Road West, Guelph, Ontario N1G 4Y2 Bureau principal du ministère: 1, rue Stone ouest, Guelph (Ontario) N1G 4Y2

..../2

Simplifying the process to undertake minor changes to drainage projects under the Drainage Act will not impact the environmental protections that are in place to help ensure that Ontarians are safe and healthy. Those existing environmental protections will be maintained to help ensure ongoing investment in drainage infrastructure.

Drainage projects must comply with all applicable law. A Guide for Engineers Working Under the Drainage Act in Ontario. Publication 852 provides an overview of the legislation and policies that must be considered.

Sincerely,

mpm in

Lisa Thompson Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

COVID-19 Reminders

- For vaccination booking details visit: <u>https://covid-19.ontario.ca/book-vaccine/</u>
- Follow your local public health/safety measures: <u>https://covid-19.ontario.ca/zones-and-restrictions</u>
- Practice physical distancing stay 2 metres away from others in public
- Get the facts <u>www.ontario.ca/page/covid-19-stop-spread</u>

Water Canada

New intake launched for Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund

By <u>Simran Chattha</u> July 20, 2021

Catherine McKenna, minister of infrastructure and communities, has launched a new intake for the <u>Disaster</u> <u>Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF)</u>.

"With extreme weather events becoming more frequent, cities and towns need to take increasing action to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change," said Catherine McKenna, minister of infrastructure and communities. "Starting today communities across Canada can apply to the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund for projects such as wildfire mitigation, rehabilitation of storm water systems, and restoration of wetlands and shorelines."

"We're investing almost \$1.4 billion in additional funding to help communities remain resilient in the face of a changing climate and other natural environmental risk events that are part of the climate emergency," added McKenna. "Together, we can build a nation that is resilient and inclusive, while growing our economy and creating good jobs for Canadians."

Communities across Canada are invited to submit projects that will aim to protect and strengthen their communities by increasing their resilience to the socio-economic, cultural, and environmental impacts of natural hazards. The projects can also aim to increase resilience to extreme weather events when considering current and potential future climate change impacts.

"Climate change is having a dramatic impact on Canadian communities across the country, with droughts, wildfires, and flooding becoming more frequent, including here in Etobicoke," said James Maloney, member of parliament for Etobicoke-Lakeshore. "With federal support for projects like the tree canopy and waterfront shoreline project here in Etobicoke through the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund, we are protecting our community from the impacts of extreme weather for generations to come."

The Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund received an additional \$1.375 billion in Budget 2021 to support projects such as rehabilitation of stormwater systems, restoration of wetlands and shorelines, and wildfire mitigation activities.

Under this program, \$670 million is being dedicated to new, small-scale projects between \$1 million and \$20 million in total eligible costs. The remaining funding envelope is allocated to large-scale projects above \$20 million in total eligible costs.

In addition, a minimum of \$138 million of the total funding envelope is being dedicated to Indigenous recipients. Together, this funding will help small, rural, remote, northern, and Indigenous communities adapt to climate change impacts.

11.3) Final Signed Memorandum of Understanding between Conservation Ontario and Hydro One Networks Inc.

> Draft Updated Memorandum of Understanding between Conservation Ontario and Hydro One Networks Inc.

> > Final Draft: June 2, 2021

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This draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been prepared as an update to the 2011 MOU between Hydro One Networks Inc. ("Hydro One") and Conservation Ontario, which detailed communication protocols to be followed between Hydro One and Conservation Authorities when Hydro One work activities are planned or undertaken on lands regulated under the *Conservation Authorities Act* ("CA Act"), as well as on CA-owned lands. The 2011 MOU acknowledged that, at the time, as a Crown Corporation, all of Hydro One's construction, maintenance and emergency activities were exempt from CA permitting requirements under Section 28 of the CA Act and individual CA regulations. However, Hydro One and its affiliates no longer hold status as crown corporations, so the previous exemption status from CA permitting requirements under Section 28 of the CA Act and the individual CA regulations ceased to apply. As such, this updated MOU has been prepared, acknowledging the new requirement for Hydro One and its affiliates Hydro One Telecom Inc. and Hydro One Sault Ste. Marie LP to obtain CA permission under Section 28 of the CA Act for their work. This MOU outlines additional protocols and best practices to continue the positive working relationship between Hydro One (and its said affiliates) and Ontario's CAs.

A draft of this updated MOU, as well as a draft application form for use by Hydro One for the new, recommended streamlined compliance approaches outlined in Appendix One of the MOU, was circulated to CA staff and Hydro One staff for simultaneous review. Comments from both the CA and Hydro One reviews are incorporated in this final document.

FINAL DRAFT (May 31, 2021)

Memorandum of Understanding between Conservation Ontario and Hydro One Networks Inc. ("Hydro One")

Glossary of Terms

Affiliates:

Hydro One Sault Ste. Marie LP and Hydro One Telecom Inc.

Compensation:

Financial contribution made by Hydro One or an Affiliate to a conservation authority as a result of damages occurred, to the extent that such damages are caused by Hydro One or an Affiliate or Hydro One's contractors, during the course of Hydro One's or an Affiliate's maintenance or construction activities. Compensation may be provided in lieu of undertaking site restoration activities.

Conservation Authority (CA)

Local, watershed management agencies that deliver programs and services to protect and manage impacts on water and other natural resources in partnership with all levels of government, landowners and other organizations. Conservation authorities are established by or under the *Conservation Authorities Act* ("CA Act"). There are 36 conservation authorities across Ontario.

Conservation Authority Authorizations ("Authorizations"):

Written documentation from the conservation authority which provides permission or authority to undertake works within conservation authority-owned lands.

Conservation Authority-Owned Lands ("Conservation Areas"):

Lands owned or managed by the conservation authority. Conservation authority-owned or managed lands are private property, however some may be publicly accessible. Conservation authority-owned or managed lands may include forests, wetlands, areas of natural and scientific interest, recreational lands, natural heritage and cultural sites, as well as lands for flood and erosion control.

Conservation Authority Permissions ("Permissions"):

From O. Reg. 97/04: Content of Conservation Authority Regulations under subsection 28(1) of the *Conservation Authorities Act*: Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses:

Refers to a permission for development in or on hazardous lands, wetlands, areas that are adjacent or close to the shoreline of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River System or to inland lakes, or rivers and stream valleys, or in other areas where the Minister is of the opinion that the authority's permission for development should be required, if, in the authority's opinion, the control of flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches, pollution or the conservation of land will not be affected by the development

Conservation Authority Regulated Area(s) ("Regulated Areas"):

From the Conservation Authorities Act, Section 28 (5):

Areas that are:

- a) adjacent or close to the shoreline of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River System or to inland lakes that may be affected by flooding, erosion or dynamic beach hazards;
- b) river or stream valleys;
- c) hazardous lands;
- d) wetlands; or
- e) other areas where, in the opinion of the Minister, development should be prohibited or regulated or should require the permission of the authority.

Conservation Ontario (CO)

A non-profit association that represents Ontario's 36 conservation authorities.

Ecological Restoration:

Activities which are undertaken to assist with the recovery and/or rehabilitation of areas that have been degraded, damaged or destroyed during the course of Hydro One maintenance or construction activities.

Depending on the works undertaken, a range of potential restoration options may be considered, including seeding to stabilize bare/exposed soils, planting of native woody vegetation, repurposing of temporary access roads (e.g., for use as trails), etc.

Emergency Works:

Works required to mitigate emergency situations where prompt coordination of resources is required to address immediate or imminent damages and/or repairs to infrastructure in order for Hydro One to meet its requirements under the *Electricity Act* and the *Ontario Energy Board Act*. These works include assets that are at risk of failure or have already failed, and may or may not yet be out of service. Emergency works typically fall into one of three priority levels: "high risk" (replace or rectify within 30 days), "medium risk" (replace or rectify within 30 – 90 days), and "low risk" (replace or rectify within 90+ days).

Maintenance:

The regular, routine actions, taken to lessen or postpone the natural deterioration of an asset (or fixture and/or equipment) of Hydro One or an Affiliate. These actions, including upkeep (e.g., vegetation management), repair, replacement and/or upgrading, are intended to keep the asset from premature loss due to failure, decline, wear or change attributable to normal use or the effect of the natural environment.

Vegetation Management:

The physical operation of providing specific tree and brush clearances from electrical apparatus and their support structures using arboricultural techniques specific to the electrical utility industry (e.g., tree removal and pruning, herbicides, grubbing, manual and mechanical cutting etc.).
1.0 Preamble

Pursuant to the *Electricity Act*, the basic mandate of Hydro One is to ensure a safe, reliable and cost-effective supply of electricity to the people of Ontario. Regular maintenance and periodic construction of Hydro One's distribution and transmission infrastructure spanning across Ontario is necessary in order to fulfill this mandate. Guidelines, such as those of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation ("NERC") standardize many Hydro One activities to achieve reliability requirements. Further, standards are imposed on Hydro One by the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, and various codes and licences issued by the Ontario Energy Board pursuant to that statute.

Under the *Conservation Authorities Act* ("CA Act") the objects of conservation authorities ("CAs") are to provide, in the areas over which they have jurisdiction, programs and services designed to further the conservation, restoration, development and management of natural resources other than gas, oil, coal and minerals. CAs are mandated under the CA Act to provide programs and services in their areas of jurisdiction, including programs and services related to: the risk of natural hazards, the conservation and management of lands owned or controlled by the authority, the authority's duties, functions and responsibilities as a source protection authority under the *Clean Water Act*, as well as other programs or services prescribed by the regulations or those provided through a municipal Memorandum of Understanding or at the direction of the CA's Board.

In 2011, Hydro One and Conservation Ontario entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU detailed the protocols that would be followed between CAs and Hydro One when Hydro One work activities are planned or undertaken on lands regulated under the CA Act, as well as on CA-owned lands. Through the MOU, Conservation Ontario acknowledged and agreed at the time that, as a crown corporation, all of Hydro One's activities (i.e., construction, maintenance or emergency activities) were exempt from CA permitting requirements under Section 28 of the CA Act and the individual CA "Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alteration to Shorelines and Watercourses" Regulations. In the absence of the formal permitting process, the 2011 MOU outlined the communication process to be followed between Hydro One and CAs, as well as Best Management Practices which could be implemented by Hydro One when carrying out construction and/or maintenance operations on CA-owned lands.

As of May 2017, Hydro One and the Affiliates no longer held status as crown corporations, and the previous exemption status from CA permitting requirements under Section 28 of the CA Act and the individual CA "Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alteration to Shorelines and Watercourses" regulations ceased to apply. The requirement for Hydro One and Affiliates to obtain authorization for projects undertaken within CA-owned lands is not affected by the change in their status from being crown corporations.

Acknowledging this new requirement for Hydro One and the Affiliates to obtain CA permission under Section 28 of the CA Act for their works, and the history of positive working relationships, Conservation Ontario and the CAs wish to continue to work with Hydro One and the Affiliates through this updated MOU. The intent of this MOU is to enhance the communication protocols and promote the use of newly developed standard processes, including recommended streamlined processes for CA Act Section 28 permissions and standard best practices for projects undertaken within CA-regulated areas and CA-owned lands. Hydro One acknowledges that it and the Affiliates are subject to other provincial and federal legislation and are responsible for consulting with other relevant agencies, which may include CAs, as necessary to meet all legislative and regulatory requirements. Participation in this MOU does not relieve Hydro One and the Affiliates from the obligation of securing any other necessary approvals; however, where other legislation identifies the need for authorizations or permissions by CAs as addressed in this MOU, it is recommended that the processes established in this MOU be utilized.

2.0 Purpose

This MOU details the roles and responsibilities of Hydro One, the Affiliates and their respective contractors, and CAs for Hydro One's and the Affiliates' works taking place in CA-regulated areas or CA-owned lands. Specifically, this MOU promotes the use of newly developed standard processes, including streamlined compliance approaches and standard best practices to be followed between CAs and Hydro One and the Affiliates for:

- (a) Hydro One's and the Affiliates' work activities on lands regulated under the CA Act (see Appendix One for further details);
- (b) Hydro One's and the Affiliates' work activities on CA-owned lands (see Section 7);
- (c) Hydro One's and the Affiliates' work activities on lands regulated under the CA Act as *emergency works* (see Section 8);
- (d) Ecological restoration activities, including joint ecological restoration opportunities, undertaken by CAs and Hydro One and the Affiliates (see Section 10); and,
- (e) Undertaking communications between the two agencies (see section 6).

As part of this updated MOU, recommended streamlined compliance (permitting) protocols have been developed which outline standard application and communication processes, and general and activity-specific mitigation measures for Hydro One's and the Affiliates' work activities taking place in CA-regulated areas. These protocols can be found in Appendix One.

Hydro One acknowledges that CAs may be agencies identified for consultation under various legislation (e.g., *Environmental Assessment Act, Environmental Protection Act, Clean Water Act*, etc.). Direct consultation with CAs for activities and approvals outside of this MOU remains the responsibility of Hydro One and is not part of this MOU. However, where consultation identifies the need for authorizations or permissions by CAs as addressed in this MOU, it is recommended that the processes established in this MOU be utilized. An overview of the general interactions between Hydro One and its Affiliates, and CAs during a typical new construction project is presented in the figure below.

Figure 1: Overview of Interactions between Hydro One and CAs (New Construction Projects)



Hydro One is generally exempt from Site Plan review and approval by municipalities

3.0 Guiding Principles

- (a) The parties are committed to undertaking positive client service and will work together to fulfil their responsibilities under the *Electricity Act*, the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, and *Conservation Authorities Act*, respectively, without compromising the intent of those statutes.
- (b) Works will be planned to avoid, mitigate, or minimize impacts to the natural environment (in that order), including hazard features (to every extent possible) and will not result in increased risks to public health or safety. Where avoidance is not possible and features are degraded, damaged or destroyed, Hydro One will work collaboratively with the CA to address the impact(s).
- (c) The parties agree to share information which would assist and expedite decision-making and communication, and contribute to best practices for Hydro One and CAs. Such information may include: property details for CA-owned lands; applicable and available geospatial data layers for CA-regulated areas and CA-owned lands; and information on policies and/or procedures which may influence the proposed works.

4.0 Background

Hydro One is Ontario's largest electricity transmission and distribution provider with approximately 1.4 million customers across Ontario. Its system accounts for approximately 98% of Ontario's transmission capacity with approximately 30,000 circuit kilometres of high-voltage transmission lines. Additionally, its distribution system is the largest in Ontario, consisting of 123,000 circuit kilometres of primarily low-voltage power lines. Pursuant to the *Electricity Act*, and the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, Hydro One is required to ensure a safe, reliable and cost-effective supply of electricity to the people of Ontario. Construction and maintenance of its

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electricity system is necessary to fulfill this mandate. Hydro One makes every effort, during the course of all activities, to avoid harm to the natural environment.

Conservation authorities undertake watershed-based programs that further the conservation, restoration, development and management of natural resources in watersheds in Ontario. There are 31 conservation authorities operating in southern Ontario and five conservation authorities delivering programs and services in northern Ontario. CAs are responsible for administering the "Development, Interference and Alteration Regulations" consistent with the "Content Regulation" (Ontario Regulation 97/04) under the CA Act. CAs have responsibilities to regulate development in or adjacent to river or stream valleys, Great Lakes and inland lakes, shorelines, watercourses, hazardous lands and wetlands or the straightening, changing, diverting or interfering in any way with the existing channel of a river, creek, stream, watercourse or wetland. Development taking place on or adjacent to these lands may require permission from the CA to confirm that the control of flooding, erosion, pollution, dynamic beaches and the conservation of land are not affected.

CAs are the second largest landowner in Ontario. CAs carry out various land management activities which protect, enhance and restore natural lands contained within conservation areas. Many conservation areas are managed in accordance with a management plan for the area, the best available natural heritage information for that area and/or in accordance with their Board-approved policies.

Hydro One is supportive of the CA mandate in general and when undertaking the abovementioned activities. Hydro One works in cooperation with CAs and has for many years.

5.0 Roles and Responsibilities

- (a) Hydro One agrees to:
 - i. Identify and provide CAs with a list of applicable Hydro One contacts on an annual basis to ensure effective communication between both parties. As a best practice, Hydro One will endeavor to provide CAs with a list of contacts through discussions regarding the forecast workplans.
 - ii. Obtain permission from the appropriate local CA(s) for planned maintenance and construction activities ("development" activities as defined in the *Conservation Authorities Act*) that may take place within CA-regulated areas (irrespective of property ownership) early in the planning process.
 - iii. Obtain authorization from the appropriate local CA(s) for all maintenance and construction activities which may take place within CA-owned lands early in the planning process.
 - iv. Provide available forecast workplans for capital projects, as well as any known additional maintenance or construction activities to be undertaken in CA-regulated areas or CA-owned lands, and keep the CA(s) apprised of changes, including any new proposed works. Hydro One will provide these workplans directly to the applicable CAs.
 - i. Where planned works may traverse multiple CA watershed boundaries, Hydro One should endeavour to schedule a meeting with all affected CAs to discuss consistent compliance and communication protocols.
 - v. Inform the appropriate local CA(s) of emergency maintenance and/or construction activities that may take place within CA-regulated areas or CA-

owned lands, consistent with the protocols identified in Section 8 of this MOU.

- vi. Undertake approved works in accordance with the general and activity-specific mitigation measures outlined in Appendix One, unless otherwise approved by the appropriate local CA(s).
- vii. Ensure that staff and contractors are knowledgeable of the terms and conditions of this MOU, including the attached recommended compliance protocols for Hydro One work activities in CA-regulated areas.
- viii. Participate in an annual review of this MOU and attached recommended compliance protocols and assist Conservation Ontario with the revision process, as required.
- (b) <u>Conservation Authorities agree to:</u>
 - i. Identify and provide Hydro One with a list of applicable CA contacts on an annual basis to ensure effective communication between the parties.
 - ii. Share available and applicable geospatial data to assist Hydro One with prescreening for proposed works (e.g., regulation limit mapping layers and conservation lands layers). CAs may choose to enter into data-sharing agreements prior to providing Hydro One with available data. Hydro One recognizes that CAs may charge a fee for data sharing.
 - iii. Review, screen and provide initial feedback to Hydro One on planned capital projects, as well as known additional maintenance and construction activities submitted through the annual/forecast workplans. This may include identifying potential concerns with proposed works and providing initial feedback on compliance approaches for the proposed works.
 - iv. Provide timely review and feedback on conservation authority permission applications submitted by Hydro One pursuant to Section 28 of the CA Act, consistent with the CA's board-approved policies. Details on the recommended procedures related to these reviews can be found in Appendix One.
 - v. Provide timely review and feedback on conservation authority authorizations for Hydro One work activities on CA-owned lands which are outside CA-regulated areas, consistent with the CA's board-approved policies.
- (c) Conservation Ontario agrees to:
 - i. Ensure that CA staff are knowledgeable of the terms and conditions of this MOU, including the recommended compliance protocols for Hydro One work activities in CA-regulated areas outlined in Appendix One.
 - ii. Coordinate, compile and communicate information, questions and concerns from either individual CAs or Hydro One to the other party, where appropriate.
 - iii. Undertake an annual review of this MOU and attached compliance protocols and oversee the revision process, as required.

6.0 Communication Between Parties

All parties identified in this MOU commit to timely, clear, and open communication to ensure that project needs can be met within the desired timeframes, and that Hydro One and CAs can fulfil their responsibilities under the *Electricity Act* the *Ontario Energy Board Act* and *Conservation Authorities* Act respectively, without compromising the intent of those statutes.

Early and regular communication allows for adequate time for both Hydro One and individual CAs to review and provide feedback on the annual/forecast workplans, which Hydro One will prepare and submit to CAs for their review. Should the individual CA(s) identify concerns with a project, the CA(s) shall notify Hydro One as soon as possible.

In addition to these general principles for communication between the parties, detailed communication protocols for a number of Hydro One activities are documented in this MOU, as well as additional recommended communication and compliance protocols outlined in Appendix One. For communications protocols related to Hydro One's and the Affiliates' works on CA-owned lands, see Section 7.0. For communications protocols related to Emergency and Priority Works undertaken by Hydro One and the Affiliates, see Section 8.0.

7.0 Works Within Conservation Authority-Owned Lands

The following section summarizes the protocols to be followed by staff of Hydro One and the Affiliates and their respective contractors when works are to be undertaken on CA-owned lands.

All parties acknowledge that Hydro One's and the Affiliates' transmission and distribution staff are granted powers of entry under s. 40 of the *Electricity Act* to lands where their transmission or distribution systems are located. The *Electricity Act* identifies requirements for their staff when utilizing these powers of entry, including providing reasonable notice to the occupier of the property, restoring the property to its original conditions insofar as is practicable, and providing *compensation* for damages caused by the entry. As a best practice, Hydro One will endeavour to provide reasonable notice to CAs for emergency works on their properties, when the CA is either the occupier or the owner of the property where access is required. For all other works planned within CA-owned lands, Hydro One will endeavour to consult early in the planning process with the affected CA(s) to allow sufficient time for information requirements and timing considerations to be reviewed.

Hydro One recognizes that CA-owned lands may be located within or outside of CA-regulated areas. Where works are to be undertaken on CA-owned lands, Hydro One acknowledges that it will need to follow the protocols outlined in this section, as well as obtain CA permissions for any development activities undertaken within areas regulated under Section 28 of the CA Act. Recommended protocols for obtaining permission for works in CA-regulated areas can be found in Appendix One or by following the established processes of the applicable CA(s). The parties recognize that CAs as landowners do not relinquish any property rights through the application of this section. In addition to the requirements related to powers of entry under the *Electricity Act*, Hydro One commits to the following protocols to be followed when staff and contractors plan to undertake work on CA-owned lands:

- (a) Hydro One will obtain advanced authorization to undertake works from the CA as per each CA's protocols and will discuss the details, which may include: identifying preferred access routes and conditions of such access prior to commencement of work (details on vehicles and/or equipment accessing the property), proposed start and end dates of works, confirmation of certificate of insurance naming the CA as also insured, archaeological requirements and restoration plans. This will apply to both direct access to CA-owned property (via public roads) and indirect access across CA-owned property to Hydro One rights-of-way (ROWs).
- (b) Prior to commencing works on the property, the CA contact will provide Hydro One with

authorization to undertake the works, site specific information and/or property use requirements in writing. Where closure of footpaths / trails may be required, Hydro One will work with the CA to ensure appropriate public notice and trail closure details are provided.

(c) Per Section 9.0 of this MOU, Hydro One acknowledges that CAs may charge a feefor authorizations on CA-owned lands.

Further details regarding protocols for access to CA-owned lands in emergency and priority situations are set out in Section 8.0 of this MOU.

8.0 Emergency and Priority Works

The parties acknowledge that there are emergency situations which require Hydro One and the Affiliates to undertake immediate action to mitigate damages and/or repair infrastructure in order for Hydro One to meet its requirements in the *Electricity Act and* the *Ontario Energy Board Act* to provide safe and reliable power. This MOU does not provide the ability to alter the requirement for Hydro One to obtain a permission for development related to emergency works under a regulation made under the *Conservation Authorities Act*, nor does it prevent Hydro One from fulfilling its requirements under the *Electricity Act* and the *Ontario Energy Board Act*.

Emergency works include any activity that requires prompt coordination of resources to address an immediate threat to public safety or the environment. This also includes limiting damage to property, equipment and the environment during and after an event, or imminent event, outside the scope of normal operations.

Priority works are typically identified through routine infrastructure inspections. Addressing these repairs is a priority for Hydro One, but this priority level generally does not include works which address immediate threats to public safety or the environment.

Priority Level	Description	in CA regulated areas
High Risk (Emergency) Replace or rectify within 30 days	Infrastructure has failed already or can imminently fail. Emergency response required.	 Emergency works executed under <i>Electricity Act</i> and the <i>Ontario Energy</i> <i>Board Act</i>. Provide notice of works to the applicable CA(s) as soon as reasonably possible Provide description of works, additional information, applicable fees to CA to review works to ensure compliance under section 28 of the CA Act
Medium Risk (Emergency) Replace or rectify within 30 – 90 days	Infrastructure identified during routine inspections as requiring replacement as soon as reasonably possible.	 Provide notice of necessary works to appropriate CA(s) in advance of works taking place. Provide all necessary information and applicable fees to CA(s) to allow CA to review works and issue written permission under section 28 of the CA Act (where timelines allow). For expedited works to address

Table 1: Summary of Hydro One Priority Level Rankings (Emergency and Priority Works)

		immediate or escalating threats, provide notice and description of works, additional information and applicable fees to review works to ensure compliance under section 28 of the CA Act.
Low Risk (Non- Emergency, Priority) Replace or rectify within 90+ days	Non-critical component repairs that are identified and are considered low priority.	 Provide notice of necessary works to appropriate CA(s) in advance of works taking place. Provide all necessary information and applicable fees to CA(s) to allow CA to review works and issue written permission under section 28 of the CA Act.

The following summarizes the protocols agreed to between CAs and Hydro One when emergency works are required:

8.1 Emergency and Priority Works within CA-Regulated Areas:

Note: These protocols further apply to CA-owned lands, where the area of the CA-owned land is a regulated area.

- When *emergency works* are required within CA-regulated areas, Hydro One will discuss the details of the necessary works with the applicable CA(s). Hydro One will endeavour to contact the applicable CA(s) as soon as reasonably possible. It is recognized that works in the "high risk" and priority level will require prompt coordination of resources, which may result in the CA becoming notified after the onset of the work.
- 2 For "high risk" *emergency works*, Hydro One will endeavour to notify the appropriate CA(s) at the earliest opportunity to discuss the works which have taken place, and provide any information to the CA(s) to ensure compliance under Section 28 of the CA Act can be achieved for these works. Where the emergency works align with one or more of the activities covered by "Standard Compliance Requirements" (see Appendix One), Hydro One will endeavour to undertake the works in compliance with all activity-specific and general mitigation measures listed for the activity(ies).
- 3. For "medium risk" *emergency works*, Hydro One will endeavour to notify the appropriate CA(s) of the necessary works prior to construction or maintenance activities taking place. In notifying the CA, Hydro One will provide the CA(s) with all available information. This may include a summary and location of the proposed works, detailed site maps, description of mitigation measures to be implemented, and any applicable fees. CA staff will work with Hydro One to issue permission for the works (if necessary) in accordance with the timelines identified in Table 1. Where the timeline for these works requires prompt coordination of resources to address an immediate or escalating threat, Hydro One will discuss any works undertaken with the appropriate CA(s), and provide information to the CA(s) to ensure compliance under Section 28 of the CA Act.
- 4. For "low risk" **priority** works, Hydro One will notify the appropriate CA(s) of the necessary works prior to construction or maintenance activities taking place. In notifying the CA, Hydro One will provide the CA(s) with all necessary information. This may include a summary and location of the proposed works, detailed site maps, description of mitigation measures to be implemented, and any applicable

fees. CA staff will work with Hydro One and the Affiliates to issue permission for the works (if necessary) in accordance with the timelines identified in Table 1.

- 5. ROW restoration requirements, if necessary, and if permissible under maintenance standards, will be discussed. For instance, temporary emergency or priority works (e.g., watercourse crossing culverts, access roads) would typically be removed after work is completed. However, these works may be left in place with the agreement of the CA(s), any affected property owners and any other approval agency(ies). Where development will remain, it should be designed and constructed based on CA policies. Additional studies may be required by the CA(s) to ensure the development will not cause negative impacts.
- Any ROW restoration work will be carried out in accordance with a written record of concurrence between Hydro One and the CA. See section 10.0 of this document for more details.

8.2 Emergency and Priority Works within CA-Owned Lands (Outside of Regulated Areas):

It is recognized that CAs as landowners do not relinquish any property rights through the application of this section. As discussed in Section 7.0 of this MOU, all parties acknowledge that Hydro One transmission and distribution staff are granted powers of entry under s. 40 of the *Electricity Act* to lands where their transmission or distribution systems are located. The *Electricity Act* identifies requirements for Hydro One's and the Affiliates' staff when utilizing these powers of entry, including providing reasonable notice to the occupier of the property, restoring the property to original conditions insofar as is practicable, and providing *compensation* for any damages caused by the entry. As a best practice, Hydro One will endeavour to provide reasonable notice to CAs for emergency and priority works on their properties, and to accommodate site-specific information and/or property use requirements, such as archaeological requirements, when the CA is either the occupier or the owner of the property where access is required. While it is understood that some high risk emergency works will require prompt coordination of resources to address an immediate threat to public safety or the environment, Hydro One will endeavor to obtain advanced authorization from the applicable CA(s) to undertake the works, where time allows.

9.0 Fees

Hydro One acknowledges that there will be fees associated with regulation applications for works undertaken in CA-regulated areas. General information regarding application fees for works undertaken on CA-regulated areas can be accessed by contacting the CA. CAs should also have current fee schedules and policies uploaded to their individual websites.

For activities on CA-owned lands, it is recognized that there may be circumstances where a fee or security will be required (e.g., fees to access CA-owned lands, fees for archaeological investigations); this will be negotiated between Hydro One and the individual CA, unless otherwise set out within the current CA fee schedule or policy.

10.0 Restoration Works or Compensation

During project-specific discussions about permissions and/or authorizations, Hydro One and the individual CA(s) will discuss site restoration options for works in CA regulated areas and CA-owned lands. Depending on the works undertaken, a range of potential restoration options may be considered, including seeding to stabilize bare/exposed soils, planting of native woody vegetation, repurposing of temporary access roads (e.g., for use as trails), etc. Through discussions regarding restoration works, Hydro One and the CA will give consideration for applicable planting seasons and timing windows (e.g., for stream restorations works). Schedules/timelines for completing these works will be discussed between both parties.

It is understood that restoration may be restricted along corridors to ensure compliance with NERC reliability standards and Ontario Energy Board standards and that there may be instances where full restoration works may not be feasible. For example, in some situations, due to clearance restrictions, only ground cover restoration is permitted (i.e., no shrubs or trees). As a best practice, any areas of disturbed or base soil should be seeded with native, non-invasive herbaeceous material while the ground is moist and conditions are appropriate for germination.

Where agreed to by both parties, where full restoration works may not be feasible by Hydro One following works on CA-owned lands, CAs may request *compensation* in lieu of site restoration. For example, CAs may opt to request *compensation* in lieu of Hydro One undertaking restoration activities in instances where CAs are planning alternative uses for the impacted sites (i.e., future trail development, new facilities, etc.).

It is noted that, while this MOU does not address unique or project-specific restoration works, such as joint restoration projects, nothing in this MOU precludes individual CAs and Hydro One and the Affiliates from entering into agreements to complete such projects. Where such works are proposed and agreed to by both parties, Hydro One and individual CAs will develop project-specific details.

11.0 Legal Liability

- (a) This MOU is an expression of the mutual intentions of the parties and is notlegally binding or enforceable.
- (b) Nothing in this MOU precludes Hydro One and the Affiliates and individual CAs from entering into additional agreements (e.g., service level agreements) for services provided to either agency. Additional agreements are outside the scope of this MOU and are to be negotiated and managed between the individual CA and Hydro One.
- (c) Both parties agree and acknowledge that any enforcement action under the *Conservation Authorities Act* is at the sole discretion of the CA.
- (d) Nothing in this MOU removes the requirement for Hydro One to obtain and follow permissions for development, interference with wetlands and alterations to shorelines and watercourses under a regulation made under the *Conservation Authorities* Act. Hydro One acknowledges its responsibility to obtain permissions for applicable development or interference activities as identified in section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*.
- (e) If there are any conflicts or inconsistencies between this MOU and any obligations under any applicable provincial or federal legislation, or associated regulations, including but

not limited to the *Electricity Act,* the *Ontario Energy Board Act,* and the *Conservation Authorities Act,* the obligations under the legislation shall prevail.

12.0 Term of the MOU

This MOU will be in force from the date of the later signature hereunder and will remain in effect until cancelled by either Party.

The parties agree to review and amend this MOU as required (e.g. due to regulatory changes, etc.) by mutual written agreement. Conservation Ontario will further undertake an annual review of this MOU and attached protocol, focusing on comments and/or concerns submitted by individual CAs or Hydro One each year. This MOU may be cancelled unilaterally by Hydro One or by Conservation Ontario by providing six months' written notice of the intention to cancel to the other Party, or by mutual agreement with any agreed period of notice.

13.0 Signatories

The Parties hereto have signed the Agreement, in counterparts, on the dates indicated below:

HYDRO ONE NETWORKS INC.

Name: Title: Date

CONSERVATION ONTARIO

Kim Gavine General Manager Date

Appendix One

Protocol for Obtaining Permission under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act for Common Hydro One Maintenance and Construction Activities

Final Draft: June 2, 2021

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Definitions

Access Road:

A road pre-existing or built to obtain access to a Hydro One asset for the purpose of construction, operation and/or maintenance.

Affiliates:

Hydro One Sault Ste. Marie LP and Hydro One Telecom Inc.

Development:

From the Conservation Authorities Act, Section 28 (25):

- a) the construction, reconstruction, erection or placing of a building or structure of any kind,
- any change to a building or structure that would have the effect of altering the use or potential use of the building or structure, increasing the size of the building or structure or increasing the number of dwelling units in the building or structure,
- c) site grading, or
- d) the temporary or permanent placing, dumping or removal of any material, originating on the site or elsewhere;

Distribution:

Distribution of electric power utilizing distribution infrastructure where the nominal operating voltage is equal to or less than 115 kV.

Hazardous Lands:

From the Conservation Authorities Act, Section 28 (25):

Land that could be unsafe for development because of naturally occurring processes associated with flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches or unstable soil or bedrock.

Mitigation:

Avoiding, eliminating or reducing to an acceptable level the potential effects of a project. It can also include rehabilitation, restoration, or enhancement where feasible, and the means by which projects can be modified to minimize or eliminate potential negative effects.

Pollution:

From the Conservation Authorities Act, Section 28 (25):

Any deleterious physical substance or other contaminant that has the potential to be generated by development in an area to which a regulation made under Section 28 (1) (c) of the *Conservation Authorities Act* applies.

Regulated Area(s):

From the Conservation Authorities Act, Section 28 (5):

Areas that are:

- a) adjacent or close to the shoreline of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River System or to inland lakes that may be affected by flooding, erosion or dynamic beach hazards;
- b) river or stream valleys;
- c) hazardous lands;
- d) wetlands; or
- e) other areas where, in the opinion of the Minister, *development* should be prohibited or regulated or should require the permission of the authority.

Right-of-Way (ROW):

A strip of land over which an Ontario Energy Board-licensed transmitter or distributor has occupational rights to occupy and use for the purposes of an electricity transmission line or lines as defined by the *Ontario Energy Board Act*. Synonymous with "Transmission Corridor" or "Distribution Corridor".

Transmission:

Transmission of electric power utilizing transmission infrastructure where the nominal operating voltage is equal to or greater than 115 kV or equal to or less than 500 kV.

Watercourse:

From the Conservation Authorities Act, Section 28 (25):

An identifiable depression in the ground in which a flow of water regularly or continuously occurs

Wetland:

From the Conservation Authorities Act, Section 28 (25):

Land that,

- a) is seasonally or permanently covered by shallow water or has a water table close to or at its surface,
- b) directly contributes to the hydrological function of a watershed through connection with a surface watercourse,

- c) has hydric soils, the formation of which has been caused by the presence of abundant water, and
- d) has vegetation dominated by hydrophytic plants or water tolerant plants, the dominance of which has been favoured by the presence of abundant water,

but does not include periodically soaked or wet land that is used for agricultural purposes and no longer exhibits a *wetland* characteristic referred to in clause (c) or (d).

List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

CA	Conservation Authority
CA Act	Conservation Authorities Act
ESC	Erosion and Sediment Control
Hydro One	Hydro One Networks Inc.
ROW	Right-of-Way
SBP	Standard Best Practices
SCR	Standard Compliance Requirements

Preface

This document has been prepared by Conservation Ontario and Hydro One Networks Inc. ("Hydro One") as part of an update to the previous 2011 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Conservation Ontario and Hydro One. The updated MOU has been prepared to reflect that, as of May 2017, Hydro One no longer holds status as a crown corporation and is thereby subject to permitting requirements under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act ("CA Act") and the individual CA "Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alteration to Shorelines and Watercourses" regulations. This document outlines recommended procedures for Hydro One and the Affiliates, including any of their respective contractors, and Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities ("CAs") for Hydro One's and the Affiliates' works taking place in regulated areas under Section 28 of the CA Act The Protocol acknowledges the requirements for the parties to fulfill their responsibilities under the Electricity Act, Ontario Energy Board Act, and Conservation Authorities Act, respectively, without compromising the intent of those statutes, when Hydro One works are planned or undertaken within CA-regulated areas. The following Protocol is intended to outline recommended notification, communication, and compliance requirements, as well as best management practices which may be used by Hydro One with CAs.

1.0 Introduction

Pursuant to the *Electricity Act*, the basic mandate of Hydro One is to ensure a safe, reliable and cost-effective supply of electricity to the people of Ontario. Regular maintenance and periodic construction of Hydro One's and the Affiliates' *distribution* and *transmission* infrastructure is necessary in order to fulfill this mandate. Given that this infrastructure may be located in and on lands regulated by conservation authorities ("CAs") under the CA Act, permissions must be sought from the local CAs to undertake certain works in these *regulated areas*.

Hydro One makes every effort during the course of maintenance and construction activities to avoid any impact to the natural environment. It should be recognized that Hydro One *ROWs*, unlike other linear infrastructure, have been able to preserve and sustain most ecological features and functions of the landscape. A consequence of this positive characteristic of the infrastructure is that crews must traverse natural areas to access Hydro One infrastructure.

Under Section 28 of the CA Act, CAs regulate *development* in or adjacent to *watercourses*, *wetlands*, the shoreline of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River System or inland lakes, river or stream valleys, *hazardous lands* and other areas where, in the opinion of the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, *development* should be prohibited or regulated or should require the permission of the authority. A CA may grant permission for *development* if, in the opinion of the Authority, the control of flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches, *pollution* or the conservation of land is not affected. CAs also regulate activities that change, divert, or interfere in any way with the existing channel of a river, creek, stream or *watercourse*, or that change or interfere in any way with a *wetland*. Hydro One's and the Affiliates' infrastructure, (e.g., *distribution* or *transmission* lines and stations, *ROWs*, *access roads*) may be located in *regulated areas* as defined under the CA Act and, as such, construction and maintenance activities associated with this infrastructure may be regulated by CAs.

Comprehensive details of the *Electricity Act*, the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, and the *Conservation Authorities Act* are available online through e-Laws (<u>www.e-laws.gov.on.ca</u>).

This protocol has been developed to provide clear and consistent compliance approaches for Hydro One when completing works within CA-*regulated areas*. Hydro One and Conservation Ontario are supportive of the new recommended streamlined compliance approaches for lowerrisk maintenance and construction activities. CAs are encouraged to utilize the streamlined approaches presented in this Protocol to provide consistency in the delivery of the Section 28 regulation process, while ensuring that CAs' regulatory responsibilities are fulfilled. This Protocol is intended to continue to support and enhance the positive working relationship between Hydro One and Ontario's CAs.

2.0 Purpose and Scope

This Protocol addresses anticipated maintenance and construction activities that may be undertaken by Hydro One and its Affiliates, or their respective contractors, for work within CA *regulated areas*. Table 1 identifies these activities and the recommended approaches for compliance with CA Section 28 regulations under the CA Act. These compliance approaches include:

- 1. CA Permission (using Regular Approach)
- 2. CA Permission (using Standard Compliance Requirements (SCRs))
- 3. Application of Standard Best Practices (SBPs)

It should be noted that not all scenarios are captured within this document. Each set of works will need to be reviewed by the CA to confirm what compliance approach is applicable. CAs will determine the appropriate compliance approach for projects based on a number of factors, including: the level of risk associated with the hazard feature, project complexity, duration, etc. Consultation with the CA will be required to determine the appropriate approach to achieving permission. Details on the recommended compliance approaches are discussed further in Section 3.

Good communication among all parties remains fundamental for the compliance approaches to be effective. Hydro One and CAs should be in regular communication to understand one another's interests and be aware of changes and developments (including changes to individual CA policies which may impact Hydro One's interests). As discussed in Section 5 of the Conservation Ontario-Hydro One MOU (2021), Hydro One and CAs should at minimum be in contact annually to review and discuss Hydro One's annual/forecast workplan within each individual CA's jurisdiction. These workplan reviews will provide an opportunity for both parties to discuss the necessary compliance approaches for Hydro One work activities early in the planning process and identify any concerns CAs may have with planned maintenance or construction activities. Where individual projects are proposed which were not included in the workplan review, Hydro One should initiate contact with the applicable CA(s) as early in the planning process as possible to discuss compliance requirements and approaches and to address any potential issues before they may become escalated.

3.0 Compliance Approaches

Under this Protocol, written permission under Section 28 of the CA Act can be achieved either by adhering to Standard Compliance Requirements (SCRs) issued by a CA or through the regular process of obtaining a CA Act Section 28 permission. Both approaches represent a form of written permission under Section 28 of the CA Act from the issuing CA. Table 1 at the end of this section provides an overview of the recommended compliance approaches for Hydro One's and the Affiliates' maintenance and construction activities. This table is not exhaustive, and CAs may identify additional projects which may require CA permissions through a review of project-specific details.

This section further provides an overview of Standard Best Practices (SBPs) to be followed by Hydro One for activities which are low-risk maintenance and construction activities and/or typically do not have associated regulatory impacts under Section 28 of the CA Act.

The following sections provide details on how and when these compliance approaches may be applied.

3.1 CA Permission (using Regular Approach)

Certain activities or regulated features within CA-*regulated areas* have a higher level of risk associated with *development* activities. Therefore, proponents may be required to obtain

permission under Section 28 of the CA Act to ensure that these activities do not further exacerbate risks associated with these hazard features.

For projects which are required to obtain permission under Section 28 of the CA Act through the regular approach, Hydro One will follow the established procedures of the local CA(s). Refer to Table 1 for more details.

3.2 CA Permission (using Standard Compliance Requirements (SCRs))

Recognizing that many of Hydro One's and the Affiliates' construction and maintenance activities are routine in nature and occur regularly across the Province, this Protocol includes a set of Standard Compliance Requirements (SCRs) which could be used locally by CAs as a form of CA Section 28 permission for certain Hydro One undertakings. For greater clarity, Hydro One would apply to the CA for permission to undertake a project by using the SCR Application Form, and the CA would review the application to determine whether the proposed works meet the SCRs.

Forms are provided for each activity covered by the SCR approach (Section 6) which contain both activity-specific *mitigation* requirements, as well as general *mitigation* requirements which are standards that must be maintained on a broad range of Hydro One maintenance and construction projects. Exceptions from the *mitigation* requirements should occur only in situations that demand the immediate actions of Hydro One (e.g., emergency works). CAs are encouraged to utilize the SCRs developed for specific Hydro One construction and/or maintenance activities as a means to provide a streamlined process towards obtaining a CA Act Section 28 permission, where appropriate.

Table 1 outlines the Hydro One construction and maintenance activities for which SCR forms are available for use by CAs to issue as a form of permission to undertake an activity under Section 28 of the CA Act. Refer to Table 1 for more details.

It is noted that through an individual CA review of proposed Hydro One works, the CA may need to apply conditions on approval of an activity consistent with their Board-approved policies and/or management plans, in addition to the activity-specific *mitigation* measures outlined in this Protocol. In these situations it is recognized that the SCR may not adequately address the concerns of the CA and the CA should, as a result, inform Hydro One that the specific activity will need to proceed with the regular approach for obtaining permission under Section 28 of the CA Act.

3.3 Application of Standard Best Practices (SBPs)

This Protocol identifies some activities which are low-risk maintenance and construction activities and/or typically do not have associated regulatory impacts under Section 28 of the CA Act. These activities are summarized in Table 1. As such, when the CA determines that Standard Best Practices (SBPs) apply to the work, Hydro One will not be required to obtain permission from the local CA(s) in order to undertake these activities in those instances. These activities may still occur within CA-*regulated areas*, however, there are no regulatory impacts typically associated with these activities, and they may not meet the definition of *development* under Section 28 of the CA Act.

When applicable, communication protocols outlined in sections 5, 6, 7 and 8 of the attached MOU should be followed to enable Hydro One and the applicable CA(s) to discuss the project and verify that CA permissions or authorizations are not required. For example, while forestry maintenance activities within existing corridors and access routes may not require permission under Section 28 of the CA Act, activities associated with the undertaking, such as access requirements for heavy machinery, modifications to existing grades or slopes, etc., may require CA permissions in order for the forestry maintenance activities to proceed. Communication protocols and procedures for this category of activities are outlined in section 6.1 of this Protocol. Hydro One should endeavour to follow the SBPs identified in Section 6.1 of this Protocol as a matter of good practice while undertaking these works.

3.4 Summary of Compliance Approaches

Section 6 of this document outlines the SCRs and SBPs for the Hydro One and Affiliates maintenance and construction activities covered under this Protocol. In total, nine activities are recommended for the SCR approach, and six activities are recommended for the application of SBPs. Table 1 (below) provides an overview of these activities and their recommended compliance approach. For clarity, Table 1 further outlines a number of common Hydro One maintenance and construction activities where the recommended compliance approach is for Hydro One to obtain CA permission following the established procedures of the local CA.

Table 1: Recommended Compliance Approaches for Hydro OneMaintenance and Construction Activities

Hydro One Activity	Recommended Compliance Approach: CA Permission (using Regular Approach)	Recommended Compliance Approach: CA Permission (using Standard Compliance Requirements)	Recommended Compliance Approach: Application of Standard Best Practices
<i>Emergency Works</i> (within CA- <i>regulated areas</i> or within CA-owned lands)	Follow procedur	es outlined in Section	8.0 of the MOU.
<i>Transmission</i> line works requiring below-grade disturbance/excavation	\checkmark		
Submarine electrical works	\checkmark		
New or extended footprint for <i>transmission</i> corridor or station (includes all activities such as forestry, construction, etc.)	✓		
Modification or installation of station drainage/storm water management works	✓		
New permanent access route or watercourse / wetland crossing installation	\checkmark		
Repair or remediate slope stability and erosion hazard impacting Hydro One Infrastructure	✓		
Installation and removal of temporary watercourse crossing below high water mark	✓		
Removal of beaver dam or other, similar obstructions		\checkmark	
Exposure, cleaning, and coating of below-grade foundations		\checkmark	
All <i>transmission</i> wood pole works (excluding new <i>transmission</i> lines)		√	
<i>Distribution</i> wood pole works within limits of <i>wetland</i> , <i>watercourse</i> or valleys (steep slopes)		✓	
Station below-grade works, excluding drainage/storm water management works		✓	
Maintenance of existing access route through limits of <i>wetland</i> , <i>watercourse</i> or valleys (steep slopes)		✓	
Installation and removal of temporary access route, including temporary <i>watercourse</i> crossing above high water mark		✓	

Hydro One Activity	Recommended Compliance Approach: CA Permission (using Regular Approach)	Recommended Compliance Approach: CA Permission (using Standard Compliance Requirements)	Recommended Compliance Approach: Application of Standard Best Practices
Forestry maintenance activities in existing corridors or access routes, within limits of <i>wetland</i> , <i>watercourse</i> or valleys (steep slopes)		\checkmark	
Geotechnical and/or intrusive archaeological investigations, within limits of <i>wetland</i> , <i>watercourse</i> or valleys (steep slopes) (applies to lines and stations)		✓	
Geotechnical and/or intrusive archaeological investigations, beyond limits of <i>wetland</i> , <i>watercourse</i> or valleys (steep slopes) (applies to lines and stations)			~
<i>Distribution</i> wood pole works beyond the limits of <i>wetland</i> , <i>watercourse</i> or valleys (steep slopes)			\checkmark
Forestry maintenance activities in existing corridors or access routes, beyond limits of <i>wetland</i> , <i>watercourse</i> or valleys (steep slopes)			✓
Maintenance of existing access routes beyond limits of <i>wetland</i> or <i>watercourse</i>			\checkmark
Above-grade infrastructure works (applies to existing lines and stations)			√
Herbicide application			\checkmark

4.0 Procedures

Timely, clear and open communication between all parties is a best practice to ensure Hydro One's and the Affiliates' projects can proceed within the desired timeframe outlined in the annual/forecast workplans and CA regulatory responsibilities are met. Hydro One should communicate its annual workplan for maintenance and construction activities to the CA(s) as early in the year as possible to allow adequate time for both Hydro One and individual CA(s) to discuss the necessary approach for compliance.

An overview of the compliance process as per this Protocol is summarized in Figure 1.

Section 4.1 of this Protocol outlines the general steps to be taken when it is determined that a SCR approach is appropriate for Hydro One maintenance or construction activities in CAregulated areas. The steps to be undertaken when SBPs apply for work which do not require permission under Section 28 of the CA Act are outlined in Section 4.2. For projects which are required to obtain permission under Section 28 of the CA Act are outlined the regular approach, Hydro One will follow the established procedures of the local CA(s). Where maintenance or construction activities are planned to be undertaken on CA-owned lands, Hydro One acknowledges the need to obtain authorization from the appropriate CA in addition to required permissions. See section 7.0 of the MOU (*Works Within Conservation Authority-Owned Lands*) for further details.

4.1 Procedures when Standard Compliance Requirements Apply

- 1. Hydro One will provide annual/forecast workplans for maintenance and construction activities planned to be undertaken in a CA's jurisdiction. Where appropriate, a meeting to discuss the workplan will be held between Hydro One and the local CA.
- 2. CA staff will review, screen and provide initial feedback on the annual/forecast workplan. This may include: identifying where planned activities are within CA-*regulated areas*; identifying concerns with any of the proposed projects; providing initial feedback on the appropriate compliance approach for individual projects; and providing any additional recommendations such as pre-consultation for specific projects which may be complex in nature.
- 3. For activities which are not provided as part of the annual/forecast workplans, Hydro One will endeavour to provide the individual CA(s) with as much notice of the proposed activities as possible. This will allow CAs to screen the proposed activities and determine the appropriate compliance requirements.
- 4. Where applicable, Hydro One will engage in pre-consultation with the individual CA(s) to further discuss the proposed undertaking(s), necessary approval processes, review and approval timelines, and complete application requirements (more details below).
- 5. Where a CA has determined that the desired approach for compliance is to utilize SCRs, Hydro One will prepare and submit a completed SCR Application Form, appropriate drawings/maps, fee(s) and any other necessary information to the individual CA(s).
- 6. Upon receipt of a completed SCR Application Form, the CA will review the application to ensure all necessary information has been included. Within 21 days (unless otherwise stated in the CA's Board-approved policies), the CA will notify Hydro One that the application is deemed complete and the CA review of the proposed works will commence.
- 7. Should the proposed works be able to proceed with permission granted from the local CA, the CA will send a signed copy of the SCR form back to Hydro One within 30 days (unless otherwise stated in the CA's Board-approved policies), following the confirmation of a complete application. By signing the SCR form, the CA is providing a written permission under the appropriate CA Act Section 28 regulation, and acknowledges its awareness of the works taking place. SCR forms shall be signed by a CA staff member with the delegated authority to grant permissions under section 28 of the CA Act.
- 8. Upon receipt of the signed SCR form, Hydro One will be able to begin undertaking the proposed works in accordance with the general and activity-specific *mitigation* measures for the specified activity. Hydro One acknowledges that the CA may monitor activities for adherence to the SCRs at their discretion. Where monitoring activities such as site visits may be required, Hydro One and associated contractors will ensure CA staff are provided with all necessary personal protective equipment specifications which may be required for entry into some work sites. CA staff are responsible for ensuring that they are in compliance with these specifications prior to entering the site. In the event of non-adherence by Hydro One to the general and activity-specific *mitigation* measures, CAs may follow their Authority's compliance procedures and, if necessary, enter into legal proceedings.

4.2 Procedures when Standard Best Practices Apply

- 1. Hydro One will provide annual/forecast workplans for maintenance and construction activities planned to be undertaken in a CA's jurisdiction. Where appropriate, a meeting to discuss the workplan will be held between Hydro One and the local CA.
- 2. CA staff will review, screen and provide initial feedback on the annual/forecast workplan. This may include: identifying where planned activities are within CA-*regulated areas*, identifying concerns with any of the proposed projects, providing initial feedback on the appropriate compliance approach for individual projects, and providing any additional recommendations such as pre-consultation for specific projects which may be complex in nature.
- 3. For activities which are not provided as part of the annual/forecast workplans, Hydro One will endeavour to provide the individual CA(s) with as much notice of the proposed activities as possible. This will allow CAs to screen the proposed activities to ensure that no additional compliance requirements will apply and that activities may proceed using the SBPs.
- 4. If the CA determines that no permission is required under Section 28of the CA Act, the CA will notify Hydro One and Hydro One may proceed with the works, following any SBPs which apply. It is acknowledged that CAs may charge a fee to recover costs associated with the review of such works (e.g., clearance fees).

4.3 Site Visits

Where a CA determines that a site visit is necessary to determine the appropriate approach for compliance, Hydro One personnel and CA representative(s) should conduct site visits jointly where possible. It is recognized that CA staff may not always be permitted to enter into a Hydro One work site without being accompanied by appropriate Hydro One personnel. As previously stated, where site visits may be required, Hydro One and its contractors will ensure that CA staff are provided with all necessary personal protective equipment specifications which may be required for entry into some work sites. CA staff are responsible for ensuring they are in compliance with these specifications prior to entering the site. If a site visit is not possible, the CA should work with Hydro One to acquire the necessary information about the project.

4.4 Pre-Consultation

For complex undertakings, such as those which should proceed with the regular process for obtaining CA permission under Section 28 of the CA Act, pre-consultation between Hydro One and the applicable CA(s) is a best practice. Pre-consultation provides an opportunity for the CA and the applicant to discuss the proposed works; to confirm complete application requirements for CA review; to proactively discuss at the beginning of the process any fundamental issues that might prevent approval; and to outline the CA review and approval process, including anticipated timelines to process the application. While general compliance approaches for Hydro One work activities may be discussed during the annual workplan meeting between Hydro One and CA staff, pre-consultation meetings offer an opportunity to discuss complex undertakings and provide applicants with a clear route towards the submission requirements for a project.

Pre-consultation meetings may take place in-person, or through electronic means (e.g., videoconferencing/teleconferencing).

Figure 1: Summary of Procedures for Use of Standard Compliance Requirements and Standard Best Practices



5.0 Issue/Dispute Resolution

Generally, the protocols and procedures outlined in this document provide a number of touchpoints between Hydro One personnel and CA staff to ensure that applications for permission (either through the SCR or regular approach) can be designed to meet CA Board-approved policies, allowing Hydro One personnel to proceed with proposed works. Should issues arise between the two parties, there are a number of remedies built into the CA Act and CA policies and procedures. These include:

Administrative Review:

If Hydro One is not satisfied with the CA decision on whether an application for a permission is deemed complete (either through the SCR or regular approach), the applicant can request an administrative review by the CA General Manager or Chief Administrative Officer, and then, if not satisfied, by the CA Board of Directors. This review will be limited to a complete application policy review and will not include review of the technical merits of the application.

Section 28 Hearing Process:

There may be some instances where CA staff may recommend refusal of an application for permission should the proposal not meet the tests of the CA Act, Section 28 regulation or the Board-approved policies. In such cases, Hydro One has the opportunity to request a hearing before the Authority (Board), or, if the Authority so directs, before the Authority's Executive Committee.

If the application is refused by the Authority, Hydro One will be notified of the reasons for refusal in writing. Within 30 days of the notification, the applicant may appeal the decision of the Authority or Executive Committee to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (or its successor, see the *Conservation Authorities Act* for details), which may then dismiss the appeal or grant permission following a hearing.

Cancellation of Permission:

The Authority may cancel a permission if it is of the opinion that the conditions of the permission have not been met. In such cases, Hydro One has the opportunity to require a hearing before the Authority (Board), or, if the Authority so directs, before the Authority's Executive Committee.

In order to prevent situations where a CA may recommend refusal of a permit application or cancellation of an existing permission, Hydro One is encouraged to prepare and submit annual workplans to CAs for their review. The preparation of these workplans will allow for early feedback on proposed works outside of the formal application process, and will allow Hydro One to refine workplans to ensure projects may proceed as desired. Further, for complex projects, Hydro One personnel are encouraged to engage in pre-consultation meetings with the applicable CA(s) to proactively discuss project and site-specific considerations and work towards developing a clear understanding of CA requirements for approval of the proposed works.

6.0 <u>Standard Compliance Requirements and Standard Best</u> <u>Practices for Hydro One Maintenance and Construction</u> <u>Activities</u>

6.1 Standard Compliance Requirement Forms STANDARD COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

Hydro One Maintenance and Construction Activities Undertaken in Regulated Areas under the *Conservation Authorities Act*

A. Removal of beaver dams or other, similar obstructions

Description of Typical Works

Removal of log jams, garbage, beaver dams or other similar obstructions within the *wetland* or *watercourse* where there is imminent risk to existing infrastructure.

Activity-Specific Mitigation Requirements

- Brush or debris is placed in a location where it cannot re-enter or block the *wetland* or channel.
- Minimize flooding upstream and downstream by drawing the water down slowly. An appropriate depth and flow should be maintained. Where a series of dams or similar obstructions are to be removed, works should proceed from downstream to upstream in order to avoid flooding impacts.
- Avoid performing work when flow conditions are elevated due to recent rainfall to minimize sediment and debris movement and erosion. Whenever possible, works should be undertaken during dry weather and under low flow conditions, with works scheduled to avoid wet, windy and rainy periods
- Where machinery will be used for debris removal, proponents will operate machinery in a manner than minimizes disturbance to the banks of the *watercourse* or *wetland*.
- Where Hydro One will need to pump and discharge water to undertake these activities, Hydro
 One will indicate where the water will be pumped and discharged, and take steps to avoid
 erosion and sedimentation issues.

General Mitigation Requirements

- Wherever possible, utilize existing trails, roads or access points to minimize disturbance when accessing the site. Where available, Hydro One should endeavour to utilize existing easements or *right-of-ways* to access sites.
- Choose appropriate conditions and equipment to minimize site disturbance (e.g., frozen or dry soil conditions or the use of load distributing machines or mats).
- Limit soil movement and erosion/sedimentation; use appropriate control measures before work begins and inspect and maintain those measures regularly until all disturbed areas are stabilized.
- Undertake works in such a way as to minimize the entry of brush, debris, sediment or other deleterious substances into a *watercourse* or *wetland*. Brush or debris should be placed in a location where it cannot re-enter or block the *wetland* or *watercourse*.
- Perform work in appropriate flow conditions to minimize debris movement and erosion.

•	Restore the disturbed site to stable conditions and similar grades and remediate any areas
	impacted by the works. Any necessary remediation works will be discussed and planned
	with the individual conservation authority.

- Vehicular refueling and maintenance will be conducted a minimum of 30-metres from any *wetlands, watercourses,* or bodies of water.
- All access to the work site shall be from either side of the *watercourse*. Equipment and vehicles are not permitted to cross through the *watercourse* unless otherwise approved by the CA.
- Where steep slopes exist, the adequate setback from the toe or top of slope must be maintained to ensure that the slopes are not destabilized as a result of the proposed works. Earthworks and grading in the vicinity of the steep slopes/banks needs to be minimized, and all activities with potential adverse impact to the slopes/banks to be avoided.

TheCo	onservation Authority grants permission under Section 28 of
the Conservation Authorities Act for w with the notification form, provided r the requirements set out above. This obtain any other approvals which ma	vork to be conducted at the location list below in accordance maintenance and construction activities are in compliance with permission does not relieve Hydro One of the responsibility to y be required from municipal, provincial or federal authorities.
File Number:	
Period of Validity:	to
Site Location:	Location Map Attached (Y / N)
Signature of Conservation Authority C	Official:
Name	Signature
Date:	

Hydro One Maintenance and Construction Activities Undertaken in Regulated Areas under the *Conservation Authorities Act*

B. Exposure, cleaning, and coating of below-grade foundations

Description of Typical Works

A common Hydro One maintenance activity on steel structure foundations which includes minor excavation around the footings of structures followed by cleaning of steel and coating with anti-corrosion paint.

Activity-Specific Mitigation Requirements

- Consider the use of wooden construction matting or swamp mats to minimize site disturbance by equipment.
- Minimize work footprint in the *regulated areas* including along channel and bank slopes.
 Ensure strict adherence to infrastructure locations confirmed with the CA.
- All excavated material must be placed beyond the limits of the *regulated area*. If not
 practical or feasible, excavated material should be independently surrounded by proper
 sediment and erosion controls.
- Use spill protection practices during coating (i.e., use of tarps, secondary containment).

Where works are taking place in wetlands or watercourses:

- Use only clear stone or blasted rock (i.e., minimal fines) below the high water mark.
- Minimize water level fluctuations upstream and downstream by slowly augmenting water levels, when applicable.
- Perform the work in no/low flow conditions to minimize sediment and debris movement and erosion. Avoid work after recent precipitation or snowmelt.

General Mitigation Requirements

- Wherever possible, utilize existing trails, roads or access points to minimize disturbance when accessing the site. Where available, Hydro One should endeavour to utilize existing easements or *right-of-ways* to access sites.
- Choose appropriate conditions and equipment to minimize site disturbance (e.g., frozen or dry soil conditions or the use of load distributing machines or mats).
- Limit soil movement and erosion/sedimentation; use appropriate control measures before work begins and inspect and maintain those measures regularly until all disturbed areas are stabilized.
- Undertake works in such a way as to minimize the entry of brush, debris, sediment or other deleterious substances into a *watercourse* or *wetland*. Brush or debris should be placed in a location where it cannot re-enter or block the *wetland* or *watercourse*.
- Perform work in appropriate flow conditions to minimize debris movement and erosion.
- Restore the disturbed site to stable conditions and similar grades and remediate any areas impacted by the works. Any necessary remediation works will be discussed and planned with the individual conservation authority.

 Vehicular refueling and mainter wetlands, watercourses, or bod 	nance will be conducted a minimum of 30-metres from any ies of water.
 All access to the work site shall vehicles are not permitted to cr the CA. 	be from either side of the <i>watercourse</i> . Equipment and oss through the <i>watercourse</i> unless otherwise approved by
 Where steep slopes exist, the a maintained to ensure that the s Earthworks and grading in the all activities with potential adve 	dequate setback from the toe or top of slope must be slopes are not destabilized as a result of the proposed works. vicinity of the steep slopes/banks needs to be minimized, and erse impact to the slopes/banks to be avoided.
TheCon	servation Authority grants permission under Section 28 of
the <i>Conservation Authorities Act</i> for wo with the notification form, provided ma the requirements set out above. This pe obtain any other approvals which may b	rk to be conducted at the location list below in accordance intenance and construction activities are in compliance with ermission does not relieve Hydro One of the responsibility to be required from municipal, provincial or federal authorities.
File Number:	
Period of Validity:	to
Site Location:	Location Map Attached (Y / N)
Signature of Conservation Authority Off	icial:
Name	Signature
Date:	

Hydro One Maintenance and Construction Activities Undertaken in Regulated Areas under the *Conservation Authorities Act*

C. All transmission wood pole works (excluding new Transmission Lines)

Description of Typical Works

A common Hydro One program involving the removal and replacement of wood pole structures for all *transmission* poles (i.e., "like-for-like replacement"). These activities are very localized with small project footprints due to the use of wood poles (instead of steel structures).

Activity-Specific Mitigation Requirements

- Work should be limited to the original footprint of the structure.
- Consider the use of wooden construction matting or swamp mats to minimize site disturbance by equipment.
- All excavated material must be placed beyond the limits of the *regulated area*. If not
 practical or feasible, excavated material should be independently surrounded by proper
 sediment and erosion controls.
- Any area of excavation should be isolated from the feature.

General Mitigation Requirements

- Wherever possible, utilize existing trails, roads or access points to minimize disturbance when accessing the site. Where available, Hydro One should endeavour to utilize existing easements or *right-of-ways* to access sites.
- Choose appropriate conditions and equipment to minimize site disturbance (e.g., frozen or dry soil conditions or the use of load distributing machines or mats).
- Limit soil movement and erosion/sedimentation; use appropriate control measures before work begins and inspect and maintain those measures regularly until all disturbed areas are stabilized.
- Undertake works in such a way as to minimize the entry of brush, debris, sediment or other deleterious substances into a *watercourse* or *wetland*. Brush or debris should be placed in a location where it cannot re-enter or block the *wetland* or *watercourse*.
- Perform work in appropriate flow conditions to minimize debris movement and erosion.
- Restore the disturbed site to stable conditions and similar grades and remediate any areas impacted by the works. Any necessary remediation works will be discussed and planned with the individual conservation authority.
- Vehicular refueling and maintenance will be conducted a minimum of 30-metres from any *wetlands, watercourses,* or bodies of water.
- All access to the work site shall be from either side of the *watercourse*. Equipment and vehicles are not permitted to cross through the *watercourse* unless otherwise approved by the CA.
- Where steep slopes exist, the adequate setback from the toe or top of slope must be maintained to ensure that the slopes are not destabilized as a result of the proposed works. Earthworks and grading in the vicinity of the steep slopes/banks needs to be minimized, and all activities with potential adverse impact to the slopes/banks to be avoided.

TheCons	ervation Authority grants permission under Section 28 of
the <i>Conservation Authorities Act</i> for wor with the notification form, provided mai the requirements set out above. This per obtain any other approvals which may b	k to be conducted at the location list below in accordance ntenance and construction activities are in compliance with rmission does not relieve Hydro One of the responsibility to e required from municipal, provincial or federal authorities.
File Number:	
Period of Validity:	to
Site Location:	Location Map Attached (Y / N)
Signature of Conservation Authority Offi	cial:
Name	Signature
Date:	

Hydro One Maintenance and Construction Activities Undertaken in Regulated Areas under the *Conservation Authorities Act*

D. *Distribution* wood pole works within limits of a *wetland*, *watercourse* or valley (steep slopes)

Description of Typical Works

A common Hydro One program involving the removal and replacement of wood pole structures for *distribution* poles (i.e., "like-for-like replacement"). These work activities are very localized, with small project footprints.

Activity-Specific Mitigation Requirements

- Work should be limited to the original footprint of the structure.
- Consider the use of wooden construction matting or swamp mats to minimize site disturbance by equipment.
- All excavated material must be placed beyond the limits of the *regulated area*. If not
 practical or feasible, excavated material should be independently surrounded by proper
 sediment and erosion controls.
- Any area of excavation should be isolated from the feature.

General Mitigation Requirements

- Wherever possible, utilize existing trails, roads or access points to minimize disturbance when accessing the site. Where available, Hydro One should endeavour to utilize existing easements or *right-of-ways* to access sites.
- Choose appropriate conditions and equipment to minimize site disturbance (e.g., frozen or dry soil conditions or the use of load distributing machines or mats).
- Limit soil movement and erosion/sedimentation; use appropriate control measures before work begins and inspect and maintain those measures regularly until all disturbed areas are stabilized.
- Undertake works in such a way as to minimize the entry of brush, debris, sediment or other deleterious substances into a *watercourse* or *wetland*. Brush or debris should be placed in a location where it cannot re-enter or block the *wetland* or *watercourse*.
- Perform work in appropriate flow conditions to minimize debris movement and erosion.
- Restore the disturbed site to stable conditions and similar grades and remediate any areas impacted by the works. Any necessary remediation works will be discussed and planned with the individual conservation authority.
- Vehicular refueling and maintenance will be conducted a minimum of 30-metres from any wetlands, watercourses, or bodies of water.
- All access to the work site shall be from either side of the *watercourse*. Equipment and vehicles are not permitted to cross through the *watercourse* unless otherwise approved by the CA.
- Where steep slopes exist, the adequate setback from the toe or top of slope must be maintained to ensure that the slopes are not destabilized as a result of the proposed works. Earthworks and grading in the vicinity of the steep slopes/banks needs to be minimized, and all activities with potential adverse impact to the slopes/banks to be avoided.

TheC	conservation Authority grants	s permission under Section 28 of
the <i>Conservation Authorities Act</i> for with the notification form, provided the requirements set out above. This obtain any other approvals which ma	work to be conducted at the maintenance and construction permission does not relieve ay be required from municipa	location list below in accordance on activities are in compliance with Hydro One of the responsibility to al, provincial or federal authorities.
File Number:		
Period of Validity:	to	
Site Location:		_ Location Map Attached (Y / N)
Signature of Conservation Authority	Official:	
Name	Signature	
Date:	-	

Hydro One Maintenance and Construction Activities Undertaken in Regulated Areas under the *Conservation Authorities Act*

E. Station below-grade works, excluding drainage/storm water management works Description of Typical Works

Works related to infrastructure below-grade (foundations, footings, drainage works, fences, firewalls, etc.) that require below-grade disturbance within the existing limits of a station only (does NOT apply to other Hydro One infrastructure).

Activity-Specific Mitigation Requirements

- Ensure strict adherence to infrastructure locations confirmed by the CA.
- All excavated material must be placed beyond the limits of the *regulated area*. If not
 practical or feasible, excavated material should be independently surrounded by proper
 sediment and erosion controls.

General Mitigation Requirements

General *mitigation* requirements are standards that must be maintained on all Hydro One infrastructure construction and maintenance projects utilizing the SCR approach.

- Wherever possible, utilize existing trails, roads or access points to minimize disturbance when accessing the site. Where available, Hydro One should endeavour to utilize existing easements or *right-of-ways* to access sites.
- Choose appropriate conditions and equipment to minimize site disturbance (e.g., frozen or dry soil conditions or the use of load distributing machines or mats).
- Limit soil movement and erosion/sedimentation; use appropriate control measures before work begins and inspect and maintain those measures regularly until all disturbed areas are stabilized.
- Undertake works in such a way as to minimize the entry of brush, debris, sediment or other deleterious substances into a *watercourse* or *wetland*. Brush or debris should be placed in a location where it cannot re-enter or block the *wetland* or *watercourse*.
- Perform work in appropriate flow conditions to minimize debris movement and erosion.
- Restore the disturbed site to stable conditions and similar grades and remediate any areas impacted by the works. Any necessary remediation works will be discussed and planned with the individual conservation authority.
- Vehicular refueling and maintenance will be conducted a minimum of 30-metres from any *wetlands, watercourses,* or bodies of water.
- All access to the work site shall be from either side of the *watercourse*. Equipment and vehicles are not permitted to cross through the *watercourse* unless otherwise approved by the CA.
- Where steep slopes exist, the adequate setback from the toe or top of slope must be maintained to ensure that the slopes are not destabilized as a result of the proposed works. Earthworks and grading in the vicinity of the steep slopes/banks needs to be minimized, and all activities with potential adverse impact to the slopes/banks to be avoided.

The _____Conservation Authority grants permission under Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* for work to be conducted at the location list below in accordance with the notification form, provided maintenance and construction activities are in compliance with

the requirements set out above. This permission does not relieve Hydro One of the responsibility to	
obtain any other approvals which may be required from municipal, provincial or federal authorities.	
File Number:	
Period of Validity:	to
Site Location:	Location Map Attached (Y / N)
Signature of Conservation Authority Official:	
Name	Signature
Date:	
Hydro One Maintenance and Construction Activities Undertaken in Regulated Areas under the *Conservation Authorities Act*

F. Maintenance of existing access route through limits of *wetland, watercourse* or valleys (steep slopes)

Description of Typical Works

Maintenance of an existing corridor or access route, within the same footprint, through *regulated areas* where a *wetland*, *watercourse* or valley (steep slope) is present. Specific maintenance activities may include the addition of aggregate, debris removal, installing beaver baffles and culvert replacement. In most cases, excavation and any soil disturbance is not required.

Activity-Specific Mitigation Requirements

- Maintain the access road footprint within the regulated area including channel and bank slopes. Efforts should be made to ensure minimal impact to wetlands, watercourse channels and bank slopes.
- Grade changes to an existing road required due to sinking/slumping must be limited to the original grade to avoid impacts to flooding.
- Placement of any material cannot result in pooling or change in flow direction.
- All excavated material must be placed beyond the limits of the *regulated area*. If not
 practical or feasible, excavated material should be independently surrounded by proper
 sediment and erosion controls.
- Use only clear stone or blasted rock (i.e., minimal fines) below the high water mark.
- Avoid performing work when flow conditions are elevated due to recent rainfall to minimize sediment and debris movement and erosion. Whenever possible, works should be undertaken during dry weather and under low flow conditions, with works scheduled to avoid wet, windy and rainy periods
- If work is required to facilitate culvert replacement in dry conditions, a dam and pumping plan must be submitted and followed.
- Culverts are to be embedded at least 10% of the culvert's diameter. Culvert must remain the same size.
- Minimize water level fluctuations / flooding upstream and downstream by slowly augmenting water levels (drawing the water down slowly), when applicable. An appropriate depth and flow should be maintained (to be confirmed by the CA).

General Mitigation Requirements

- Wherever possible, utilize existing trails, roads or access points to minimize disturbance when accessing the site. Where available, Hydro One should endeavour to utilize existing easements or *right-of-ways* to access sites.
- Choose appropriate conditions and equipment to minimize site disturbance (e.g., frozen or dry soil conditions or the use of load distributing machines or mats).
- Limit soil movement and erosion/sedimentation; use appropriate control measures before work begins and inspect and maintain those measures regularly until all disturbed areas are stabilized.

- Undertake works in such a way as to minimize the entry of brush, debris, sediment or other deleterious substances into a *watercourse* or *wetland*. Brush or debris should be placed in a location where it cannot re-enter or block the *wetland* or *watercourse*.
- Perform work in appropriate flow conditions to minimize debris movement and erosion.
- Restore the disturbed site to stable conditions and similar grades and remediate any areas impacted by the works. Any necessary remediation works will be discussed and planned with the individual conservation authority.
- Vehicular refueling and maintenance will be conducted a minimum of 30-metres from any *wetlands, watercourses,* or bodies of water.
- All access to the work site shall be from either side of the *watercourse*. Equipment and vehicles are not permitted to cross through the *watercourse* unless otherwise approved by the CA.
- Where steep slopes exist, the adequate setback from the toe or top of slope must be maintained to ensure that the slopes are not destabilized as a result of the proposed works. Earthworks and grading in the vicinity of the steep slopes/banks needs to be minimized, and all activities with potential adverse impact to the slopes/banks to be avoided.

TheCo	Conservation Authority grants permission under Section 28 of				
the <i>Conservation Authorities Act</i> for work to be conducted at the location list below in accordance with the notification form, provided maintenance and construction activities are in compliance with the requirements set out above. This permission does not relieve Hydro One of the responsibility to obtain any other approvals which may be required from municipal, provincial or federal authorities.					
File Number:					
Period of Validity:	to				
Site Location:		Location Map Attached (Y / N)			
Signature of Conservation Authority C	Official:				
Name	Signature				
Date:					

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Hydro One Maintenance and Construction Activities Undertaken in Regulated Areas under the *Conservation Authorities Act*

G. Installation and removal of temporary access route, including temporary *watercourse* crossing above high water mark

Description of Typical Works

Temporary installation and use of construction aids primarily intended to facilitate access across or through *wetlands* or *watercourses*. This may include the use of aggregates, geotextile, timber mats, swamp mats and clear-span bridges.

Activity-Specific Mitigation Requirements

- Ensure that the exact location for installation of the temporary *access road* is confirmed with the CA staff. Exact locations will be marked in the field.
- Where possible, design and plan installation and removal to avoid or minimize below-grade impacts, including excavation and disturbance to soil and vegetation.
- Minimize footprint of the temporary access road within CA-regulated areas. Efforts should be made to ensure minimal impact to wetlands, watercourse channels and bank slopes.
- Use only clear stone or blasted rock (i.e., minimal fines) below the high water mark
- Avoid performing work when flow conditions are elevated due to recent rainfall to minimize sediment and debris movement and erosion. Whenever possible, works should be undertaken during dry weather and under low flow conditions, with works scheduled to avoid wet, windy and rainy periods
- When removing the *access roads*, stabilize the area to limit sedimentation. This could include the seeding of native, non-invasive materials.

General Mitigation Requirements

- Wherever possible, utilize existing trails, roads or access points to minimize disturbance when accessing the site. Where available, Hydro One should endeavour to utilize existing easements or *right-of-ways* to access sites.
- Choose appropriate conditions and equipment to minimize site disturbance (e.g., frozen or dry soil conditions or the use of load distributing machines or mats).
- Limit soil movement and erosion/sedimentation; use appropriate control measures before work begins and inspect and maintain those measures regularly until all disturbed areas are stabilized.
- Undertake works in such a way as to minimize the entry of brush, debris, sediment or other deleterious substances into a *watercourse* or *wetland*. Brush or debris should be placed in a location where it cannot re-enter or block the *wetland* or *watercourse*.
- Perform work in appropriate flow conditions to minimize debris movement and erosion.
- Restore the disturbed site to stable conditions and similar grades and remediate any areas impacted by the works. Any necessary remediation works will be discussed and planned with the individual conservation authority.
- Vehicular refueling and maintenance will be conducted a minimum of 30-metres from any wetlands, watercourses, or bodies of water.

- All access to the work site shall be from either side of the *watercourse*. Equipment and vehicles are not permitted to cross through the *watercourse* unless otherwise approved by the CA.
- Where steep slopes exist, the adequate setback from the toe or top of slope must be maintained to ensure that the slopes are not destabilized as a result of the proposed works. Earthworks and grading in the vicinity of the steep slopes/banks needs to be minimized, and all activities with potential adverse impact to the slopes/banks to be avoided.

TheCo	Conservation Authority grants permission under Section 28 of			
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File Number:				
Period of Validity:	to			
Site Location:	Location Map Attached (Y / N)			
Signature of Conservation Authority O	fficial:			
Name	Signature			
Date:				

Hydro One Maintenance and Construction Activities Undertaken in Regulated Areas under the *Conservation Authorities Act*

H. Forestry maintenance activities in existing corridors or access routes, within limits of a *wetland*, *watercourse* or valley (steep slopes)

Description of Typical Works

The removal of trees and other vegetation within CA-*regulated areas* in existing Hydro One corridors or access routes. This may be required for *right-of-way* maintenance and site accessibility. In most cases, soil disturbance is not part of the approved works.

Activity-Specific Mitigation Requirements

- Remove vegetation selectively; compatible vegetation should be preserved where possible.
- Whenever possible, avoid removing roots and disturbing any soil. If soil disturbance is required, appropriate erosion and sedimentation control measures are required.
- Where vegetation removal is required on bank slopes, to preserve slope stability, the vegetative root structure should be preserved. Brushing the bank slope should not disturb soil or remove the roots of any trees or shrubs.
- Choose conditions and equipment appropriate to minimize site disturbance by equipment.
- Whenever possible, proponents should endeavour to complete this work during dry weather. Works should be scheduled to avoid wet, windy and rainy periods that may result in high flow volumes and/or increased erosion and sedimentation.
- Should soil disturbance be required the following is required:
 - Grades must be returned to stable conditions. Where possible, excavated soil/debris must be removed from the site.

General Mitigation Requirements

- Wherever possible, utilize existing trails, roads or access points to minimize disturbance when accessing the site. Where available, Hydro One should endeavour to utilize existing easements or *right-of-ways* to access sites.
- Choose appropriate conditions and equipment to minimize site disturbance (e.g., frozen or dry soil conditions or the use of load distributing machines or mats).
- Limit soil movement and erosion/sedimentation; use appropriate control measures before work begins and inspect and maintain those measures regularly until all disturbed areas are stabilized.
- Undertake works in such a way as to minimize the entry of brush, debris, sediment or other deleterious substances into a *watercourse* or *wetland*. Brush or debris should be placed in a location where it cannot re-enter or block the *wetland* or *watercourse*.
- Perform work in appropriate flow conditions to minimize debris movement and erosion.
- Restore the disturbed site to stable conditions and similar grades and remediate any areas impacted by the works. Any necessary remediation works will be discussed and planned with the individual conservation authority.
- Vehicular refueling and maintenance will be conducted a minimum of 30-metres from any wetlands, watercourses, or bodies of water.

- All access to the work site shall be from either side of the *watercourse*. Equipment and vehicles are not permitted to cross through the *watercourse* unless otherwise approved by the CA.
- Where steep slopes exist, the adequate setback from the toe or top of slope must be maintained to ensure that the slopes are not destabilized as a result of the proposed works. Earthworks and grading in the vicinity of the steep slopes/banks needs to be minimized, and all activities with potential adverse impact to the slopes/banks to be avoided.

The	Conservation Authority grants permission under Section 28 of			
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File Number:				
Period of Validity:	to			
Site Location:	Location Map Attached (Y / N)			
Signature of Conservation Authority	/ Official:			
Name	Signature			
Date:	_			

Hydro One Maintenance and Construction Activities Undertaken in Regulated Areas under the *Conservation Authorities Act*

I. Geotechnical and/or intrusive archaeological investigations, within limits of *wetland*, *watercourse* or valleys (steep slopes) (applies to lines and stations)

Description of Typical Works

In preparation for large construction projects, intrusive geotechnical or archeological (Stage 2 and beyond) investigations may be required to obtain data on the geotechnical conditions of a site. These investigations require the disturbance of soils and other substrate below-grade. This work is generally conducted by external consultants with expertise in the subject area and are monitored by Hydro One.

Activity-Specific Mitigation Requirements

- Works should not result in a change of grade at the site area.
- All excavated material must be placed beyond the limits of the *regulated area*. If not
 practical or feasible, excavated material should be independently surrounded by proper
 sediment and erosion controls.
- Whenever possible, proponents should endeavour to complete this work during dry weather. Works should be scheduled to avoid wet, windy and rainy periods that may result in high flow volumes and/or increased erosion and sedimentation.
- Cuttings and drilling fluid from any drilling operations should be contained and removed offsite.

General Mitigation Requirements

- Wherever possible, utilize existing trails, roads or access points to minimize disturbance when accessing the site. Where available, Hydro One should endeavour to utilize existing easements or *right-of-ways* to access sites.
- Choose appropriate conditions and equipment to minimize site disturbance (e.g., frozen or dry soil conditions or the use of load distributing machines or mats).
- Limit soil movement and erosion/sedimentation; use appropriate control measures before work begins and inspect and maintain those measures regularly until all disturbed areas are stabilized.
- Undertake works in such a way as to minimize the entry of brush, debris, sediment or other deleterious substances into a *watercourse* or *wetland*. Brush or debris should be placed in a location where it cannot re-enter or block the *wetland* or *watercourse*.
- Perform work in appropriate flow conditions to minimize debris movement and erosion.
- Restore the disturbed site to stable conditions and similar grades and remediate any areas impacted by the works. Any necessary remediation works will be discussed and planned with the individual conservation authority.
- Vehicular refueling and maintenance will be conducted a minimum of 30-metres from any *wetlands, watercourses,* or bodies of water.
- All access to the work site shall be from either side of the *watercourse*. Equipment and vehicles are not permitted to cross through the *watercourse* unless otherwise approved by the CA.

 Where steep slopes exist, the adequate setback from the toe or top of slope must be maintained to ensure that the slopes are not destabilized as a result of the proposed works. Earthworks and grading in the vicinity of the steep slopes/banks needs to be minimized, and all activities with potential adverse impact to the slopes/banks to be avoided.

The	Conservation Authority grants permission under Section 28 of			
the Conservation Authorities Act for with the notification form, provide the requirements set out above. T obtain any other approvals which	or work to be conducted at the location list below in accordance ed maintenance and construction activities are in compliance with his permission does not relieve Hydro One of the responsibility to may be required from municipal, provincial or federal authorities.			
File Number:				
Period of Validity:	to			
Site Location:	Location Map Attached (Y / N)			
Signature of Conservation Authori	ty Official:			
Name	Signature			
Date:				

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6.2 Application of Standard Best Practices

STANDARD BEST PRACTICES

Hydro One Maintenance and Construction Activities Undertaken in Regulated Areas under the *Conservation Authorities Act*

A. Geotechnical and/or intrusive archaeological investigations, beyond limits of *wetland*, *watercourse* or valleys (steep slopes) (applies to lines and stations)

Description of Typical Works

In preparation for large construction projects, intrusive geotechnical or archeological (Stage 2 and beyond) investigations may be required to obtain data on the geotechnical conditions of a site. These investigations require the disturbance of soils and other substrate below-grade. This work is generally conducted by external consultants with expertise in the subject area and are monitored by Hydro One.

- Works should not result in a change of grade at the site area.
- Works should be undertaken in such a way as to minimize the entry of brush, debris, sediment or other deleterious substances into a *watercourse* or *wetland*. Brush or debris should be placed in a location where it cannot re-enter or block the *wetland* or *watercourse*.
- All excavated material must be placed beyond the limits of the *regulated area*. If not
 practical or feasible, excavated material should be independently surrounded by proper
 sediment and erosion controls.
- Whenever possible, proponents should endeavour to complete this work during dry weather. Works should be scheduled to avoid wet, windy and rainy periods that may result in high flow volumes and/or increased erosion and sedimentation.
- Minimize disturbance to the proposed work area by utilizing existing trails, access roads and access points.
- Choose conditions and equipment appropriate to minimize site disturbance by equipment, particularly in proximity to the top and toe of hazardous slopes.
- Vehicular refueling and maintenance will be conducted a minimum of 30 metres from any wetlands, watercourses, or bodies of water.
- All access to the work site shall be from either side of the *watercourse*. Equipment and vehicles are not permitted to cross through the *watercourse* unless otherwise approved by the CA.
- Cuttings and drilling fluid from any drilling operations should be contained and removed offsite.

Hydro One Maintenance and Construction Activities Undertaken in Regulated Areas under the *Conservation Authorities Act*

B. *Distribution* wood pole works beyond the limits of *wetland, watercourse* or valleys (steep slopes) (applies to lines and stations)

Description of Typical Works

A common Hydro One program involving the removal and replacement of wood pole structures for all *distribution* poles located beyond the limits of a *wetland*, *watercourse*, or valley (steep slopes) (i.e., "like-for-like" replacement). The activities are very localized with small project footprints due to the use of wood poles (instead of steel structures).

- Work should be limited to the original footprint of the structure.
- Consider the use of wooden construction matting or swamp mats to minimize site disturbance by equipment.
- All excavated material must be placed beyond the limits of the *regulated area*. If not
 practical or feasible, excavated material should be independently surrounded by proper
 sediment and erosion controls.
- Works should be undertaken in such a way as to minimize the entry of brush, debris, sediment or other deleterious substances into a *watercourse* or *wetland*. Brush or debris should be placed in a location where it cannot re-enter or block the *wetland* or *watercourse*.
- Any area of excavation should be isolated from the feature.
- Wherever possible, utilize existing trails, roads or access points to minimize disturbance when accessing the site. Where available, Hydro One should endeavour to utilize existing easements or *right-of-ways* to access sites.
- Choose conditions and equipment appropriate to minimize site disturbance by equipment (e.g., frozen or dry soil conditions or the use of load distributing machines or mats).
- Restore the disturbed site to stable conditions and grades and remediate any areas impacted by the works. Any necessary remediation works will be discussed and planned with the individual conservation authority.
- Vehicular refueling and maintenance will be conducted a minimum of 30 metres from any *wetlands, watercourses,* or bodies of water.
- All access to the work site shall be from either side of the *watercourse*. Equipment and vehicles are not permitted to cross through the *watercourse* unless otherwise approved by the CA.

Hydro One Maintenance and Construction Activities Undertaken in Regulated Areas under the *Conservation Authorities Act*

C. Forestry maintenance activities in existing corridors or access routes, beyond limits of *wetland, watercourse* or valleys (steep slopes)

Description of Typical Works

The removal of trees and other vegetation within CA-*regulated areas* in existing Hydro One corridors or access routes. This may be required for *right-of-way* maintenance and site accessibility. In most cases, soil disturbance is not part of the approved works.

- Remove vegetation selectively; compatible vegetation should be preserved where possible.
- Whenever possible, avoid removing roots and disturbing any soil. If soil disturbance is required, appropriate erosion and sedimentation control measures are required.
- Choose conditions and equipment appropriate to minimize site disturbance by equipment.
- Works should be undertaken in such a way as to minimize the entry of brush, debris, sediment or other deleterious substances into a *watercourse* or *wetland*. Brush or debris should be placed in a location where it cannot re-enter or block the *wetland* or *watercourse*.
- Whenever possible, proponents should endeavour to complete this work during dry weather. Works should be scheduled to avoid wet, windy and rainy periods that may result in high flow volumes and/or increased erosion and sedimentation.
- Should soil disturbance be required the following is required:
 - Grades must be returned to stable conditions. Where possible, excavated soil/debris must be removed from the site.
- Vehicular refueling and maintenance will be conducted a minimum of 30 metres from any wetlands, watercourses, or bodies of water.
- All access to the work site shall be from either side of the *watercourse*. Equipment and vehicles are not permitted to cross through the *watercourse* unless otherwise approved by the CA.

Hydro One Maintenance and Construction Activities Undertaken in Regulated Areas under the *Conservation Authorities Act*

D. Maintenance of existing access routes beyond limits of *wetland*, *watercourse* or valley (steep slopes)

Description of Typical Works

Maintenance activities associated with existing *access roads* within conservation authority *regulated areas* outside of hazard features but within *regulated area* (i.e., regulatory allowance).

Maintenance activities do not include extending or widening the *access road*, raising or lowering the grade, or changing the bedding material used.

Specific maintenance activities may include the addition of aggregate, debris removal, installing end protection, installing beaver baffles and culvert replacement. In most cases, excavation and any soil disturbance is not required.

- Choose conditions and equipment appropriate to minimize site disturbance by equipment
- Works should be undertaken in such a way as to minimize the entry of brush, debris, sediment or other deleterious substances into a *watercourse* or *wetland*. Brush or debris should be placed in a location where it cannot re-enter or block the *wetland* or *watercourse*.
- Perform work in appropriate conditions (e.g., dry weather) to minimize debris movement and erosion
- Limit soil movement and erosion; use control measures if necessary prior to commencing works.
- Site access requirements must be shared with the CA prior to commencing works to confirm works will have no regulatory impacts.
- Vehicular refueling and maintenance will be conducted a minimum of 30 metres from any wetlands, watercourses, or bodies of water.
- All access to the work site shall be from either side of the *watercourse*. Equipment and vehicles are not permitted to cross through the *watercourse* unless otherwise approved by the CA.

Hydro One Maintenance and Construction Activities Undertaken in Regulated Areas under the *Conservation Authorities Act*

E. Above-grade infrastructure works (applies to existing lines and stations)

Description of Typical Works

Works related to infrastructure above-grade (conductor, skywire, insulator, hardware, steelreplacement, tower coating, etc.) that does not require any below-grade disturbance. Applicable to activities in stations or along lines.

- Choose conditions and equipment appropriate to minimize site disturbance by equipment, particularly in proximity to the top and toe of hazardous slopes.
- Minimize footprint to the *regulated areas* including channel and bank slopes.
- Avoid performing work when flow conditions are elevated due to seasonality or recent rainfall to minimize sediment and debris movement and erosion.
- Site access requirements must be shared and approved by CA prior to commencing works.
- Vehicular refueling and maintenance will be conducted a minimum of 30 metres from any wetlands, watercourses, or bodies of water.
- All access to the work site shall be from either side of the *watercourse*. Equipment and vehicles are not permitted to cross through the *watercourse* unless otherwise approved by the CA.
- Where steep slopes exist, the adequate setback from the toe or top of slope must be maintained to ensure that the slopes are not destabilized as a result of the proposed works.

Hydro One Maintenance and Construction Activities Undertaken in Regulated Areas under the *Conservation Authorities Act*

F. Herbicide Application

Description of Typical Works

Herbicide application by a qualified professional

- Application of herbicide is not permitted within *wetlands* or near *watercourses*
- To minimize spread of herbicide, proponents should endeavour to schedule this work to avoid wet, windy or rainy periods.
- Any source protection requirements should be confirmed with the local source protection authority
- Vehicular refueling and maintenance will be conducted a minimum of 30 metres from any wetlands, watercourses, or bodies of water.
- All access to the work site shall be from either side of the *watercourse*. Equipment and vehicles are not permitted to cross through the *watercourse* unless otherwise approved by the CA.
- Where steep slopes exist, the adequate setback from the toe or top of slope must be maintained to ensure that the slopes are not destabilized as a result of the proposed works.

FINAL DRAFT HYDRO ONE APPLICATION FORM FOR PERMISSION FROM CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES (FOR ACTIVITIES COVERED BY STANDARD COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS) SUBJECT TO ONTARIO CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES ACT, S.28 "DEVELOPMENT, INTERFERENCE WITH WETLANDS, AND ALTERATIONS TO SHORELINES AND WATERCOURSES" REGULATIONS							
A completed copy of this form is to be sen apply as per Appendix One of the Mer	nt to each applicable co morandum of Understo	onservation authority anding between Conse requirer	when applying for per ervation Ontario and H nents, or amendments	mission under section ydro One Networks In s made to the aforeme	28 of the <i>Conservation Authorit</i> . c. (2021). This application form r entioned MOU.	ies Act for works wher may be updated perioc	e Standard Compliance Requirements dically to reflect current legislative
Conservation authority use only	/.						
Conservation authority:					File Number:		
			SECTION 1: Co	ontact Informati	on		
Applicant / Agent / Contractor	Information*:						
*Note: If this application involves both an	applicant and an ager	nt, please provide the	contact information f	or both in the fields b	elow		
		Applicant I	nformation			Agent Informa	ition
Name:							
Hydro One Line of Business:							
Mailing Address (Street, PO							
Box):							
City:							
Postal Code:							
Telephone:							
Cell:							
Email:							
Fax:						c .:	
Hydro One is authorized to access YES NO	the property and	has provided no	tice to the proper	ty owner for the	site(s) documented below	v as per Section 40	0 of the Electricity Act
Digital correspondence is preferre	d by the applicant	t/agent YES	⊔ NO	(0)			
	1	SE	CTION 2: Locati	on of Proposed	Works		
		Пу	ES)	
Location Map Attached?	Note: If no locatio	n map is attached o	at the time of subm	itting the applicatio complete and in	on form, the CA may require hitiating their review.	a map be provided p	prior to deeming the application
Municipality: (field required)				•			
Municipal Street Address:							
Legal Description (Lot, Plan,							
Concession) (if no fire number issued):							
Nearest Major Intersection:					1		
	Latitude (Y):			UTM Y:		UTM Zone:	
Geographic Location:	Longitude (X):	_		UTM X:	-		
	T	-	SECTION 3:	Project Details		1 T	
Is this work being undertaken in response to an Emergency		☐ YES	Has this work commenced or been	 High Risk (Em (Replace or rectify with the main section of the main secti	nergency) thin 30 days) (Emergency)	Please provide details of the Emeregency	
8.0 of the CO Hydro Ope MOU		priority level		(Replace or rectify wi	(g, ithin 30-90 days)	Works:	
(2021)2		ranking (select					
(2021):		one)):	NO	Low Risk (Pric	ority)		
Project Name (if applicable):				(Replace of feculy wi	unin 90+ uuys)		
Proposed Start Date:	Dav:			Month:		Year:	
Anticipated Date of	Day:			Month:		Year:	
Has a previous application to							
nronerty?		I ES					
property:	SECTION 4: Desc	(Provide Details).	One Constructi	ion and/or Main	tenance Activities to h	o Undertaken	
Activity	Section 4: Description of Hydro One Construction and/or Maintenance Activities to be Undertaken						
(Selection from drop-down	menu)			Descripti	on and Additional Infor	mation	
		S	ECTION 5: Subn	nission Requirer	nents		

The following information /itoms are attached	Four (4) copies of a plan/ma (applicable when paper application is su	p of the work area bmitted otherwise one electronic copy)	Confirmation that th changes to drai	e project will results in no changes to drainage. I nage are anticipated, details before and after the development must be provided	
in a covering letter/email with this			Complete description	of the type of fill proposed to be placed/dumped	
application form for review by the conservation authority:	Applic	able Permit Fee(s)	or co	or confirmation that no fill is required for this pro	
	Erosion and Sedir	nent Control Plans		Environmental Monitoring and Compliance Plans	
Note: CA staff will notify the applicant if additional technical studies and/or plans will be required to process this application.			Other technical studies or plans as the Authority may reques (E.g., Environmental Impact Statements, Geotechnical Studies, Culvert Sizing, etc.)		
	Confirmation that project w	ill adhere to activit	y-specific mitigation requo outlined	irements and general mitigation requirements a d in Appendix 1 of the CO-Hydro One MOU (2021	
	Section 6: Applicant	Statement and Statement and Statement and Statement Stat	Signature		
By signing this application, consent is given to the applicable conservation authority's staff or officer(s) to enter the private property, other than a building or dwelling, at reasonable times for the purpose of considering a request related to the property for permission that is required by a regulation made under the Conservation Authorities Act, or for otherwise enforcing a regulation made under the Act where the authority or officer has reasonable grounds to believe that a contrvention of the regulation is causing or is likely to cause significant environmental damage, and entry is required to prevent or reduce the damage. It is acknowledged that some Hydro One sites may required clearance prior to entry. In such instances, Hydro One will work with the applicable conservation authority to schedule access to the site.		SIGNATURE: App	licant/Agent	DATE:	
I hereby declare that I have read the above staten have provided is true and correct to the best of my of the information, plans and submissions to	nents, and that the information I knowledge and belief, and that all be true, valid and current.				

12. In Camera Session

12.1 A matter addressing one of the following:

- a) The security of the property of the Authority;
- b) Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including employees of the Authority;
- c) A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the Authority;
- d) Labour relations or employee negotiations;
- e) Litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals (e.g. Local Planning Appeal Tribunal), affecting the Authority;
- f) Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege;
- g) A matter in respect of which the General Membership, Executive Committee, Advisory Board or committee or other body may hold a closed meeting under another act;
- h) Information explicitly supplied in confidence to the Authority by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them;
- A trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the Authority, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization;
- j) A trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial or financial information that belongs to the Authority and has monetary value or potential monetary value; or
- k) A position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the Authority.

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

CARRIED

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

CARRIED

14. Adjournment