



Board of Directors Meeting

A G E N D A

August 18, 2022

2:00 p.m.

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3. Adoption of Agenda	
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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 Meeting Minutes June 16, 2022



Board of Directors Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

The meeting of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority's Board of Directors was held in person and remotely via the LTVCA's Administration Office at 100 Thames Street, Chatham, at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, June 16, 2022. The following directors were in attendance: T. Thompson, L. McKinlay, A. Finn, M. Hentz, P. Tiessen, C. Cowell, S. Emons, H. Aerts, S. Hipple, S. Hipple, J. Wright, R. Leatham and JJ Strybosch. S. Emons was unable to attend.

1. First Nations Acknowledgment

M. Peacock read the First Nations acknowledgement.

2. Call to Order

Chair, T. Thompson called the meeting to order.

3. Adoption of Agenda

BD-2022-18 M. Hentz – C. Cowell

Moved that the agenda be adopted with the addition of Correspondence item #11.1 to the agenda.

CARRIED

4. Disclosures of Conflicts of Interest

None Declared.

5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

BD-2022-19 P. Tiessen – J. Wright

Moved that the Board of Directors meeting minutes of April 21, 2022 be approved.

CARRIED

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

None declared.

7. Presentations

7.1) Talbot Trail Environmental Assessment

Steve Taylor from BTE, provided a power point presentation on the Talbot Trail Environmental Assessment.

7.2) Recent municipal planning and building policy changes - additional dwellings and Minimum Sizes

Connor Wilson provided a power point presentation on Recent municipal planning and building policy changes - additional dwellings and minimum sizes.

7.3) Chatham Leaf and Yard Waste Depot and Wolfe Creek BMX – Background to leased properties

Mark Peacock provided a power point presentation on the property leases for the Chatham Leaf and Yard Waste Depot as well as the Wolfe Creek BMX track located within the LTVCA's Diversion Channel property along Creek Road.

BD-2022-20 P. Tiessen – A. Finn

Moved that the Board of Directors receive presentations 7.1) through to 7.3).

CARRIED

8. New Business

None noted.

9. Business for Approval

9.1) Income and Expenditure vs Budget to April 30, 2022

BD-2022-21 P. Tiessen – L. McKinlay

Moved that the Board of Directors receives the Budget vs Revenue and Expenditures report for the period ended April 30, 2022.

CARRIED

9.2) Talbot Trail Environmental Assessment

BD-2022-22 R. Leatham – L. McKinlay

Moved that the LTVCA Board of Directors supports the Environmental Assessment process undertaken thus far and supports the posting of the Talbot Trail Environmental Assessment for the final review period, and that this issue of the Regulations not being able to address Climate Change be brought forward in this Environmental Assessment process.

CARRIED

9.3) Revision to Section 28 Permit Fees

BD-2022-23 A. Finn – M. Hentz

Moved that the following adjustments to the Planning and Regulations Fee Schedules;

- 1) That the fee schedule be adjusted to note that fees for MZOs will be determined through a scoping exercise conducted with the project proponent with the objective of the fees being revenue neutral to the LTVCA.
- 2) That a minimum fee of \$100 be set for Hydro One project reviews, with the minimum fee deducted from subsequent permit fees determined for the project.
- 3) That the wording for retroactive permit applications be adjusted to include the wording “*Applications where work has commenced or finished without authorization and where such works comply with LTVCA board-approved policies: 100% Surcharge.*”

CARRIED

9.4) Chatham-Kent Leaf and Yard Waste Lease

BD-2022-24 M. Hentz – S. Hipple

Moved that the C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer and the Chair be authorized to sign a lease with the Municipality of Chatham-Kent upon review of the final document by the LTVCA lawyer.

CARRIED

9.5) Chatham BMX Track Lease

BD-2022-25 A. Finn – C. Cowell

Moved that the C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer and the Chair be authorized to sign a lease with the BMX upon review of the final document by the LTVCA lawyer.

CARRIED

9.6) Change of Purchasing Policy to Address Project Lead Purchasing

BD-2022-26 S. Hipple – P. Tiessen

Moved that the Board of Directors authorize project leads to have a purchasing limit of \$1,500, AND That this be included in the LTVCA Purchasing Policy.

CARRIED

10. New Business

10.1) C.A.O.'s Report

BD-2022-27 J. Wright – A. Finn

Moved that the C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer Report be received for information.

CARRIED

- 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) Executive Committee Minutes – February 9, 2022
- 10.8) Wheatley Two Creeks Association Minutes – April 7, 2022
- 10.9) Wheatley Two Creeks Association Minutes – May 5, 2022

BD-2022-28 H. Aerts – M. Hentz

Moved that the New Business items 10.2) to 10.9) be received for information.

CARRIED

11. Correspondence

- 11.1) Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks re: agricultural representatives to sit on the LTVCA's Board of Directors

BD-2022-29 P. Tiessen – L. McKinlay

Moved that Correspondence item 11.1) be received for information.

CARRIED

12. In Camera Session

BD-2022-30 M. Hentz – L. McKinlay

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

CARRIED

BD-2022-31 L. McKinlay – H. Aerts

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

CARRIED

13. Other Business

None noted.

14. Adjournment

BD-2022-32 P. Tiessen – J. Wright

Moved that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Trevor Thompson
Chair

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

5.2) Federation of Canadian Municipalities Municipal Asset Management Program Funding Application Minutes June 29, 2022

Report to Board

Date: June 29, 2022
Memo to: LTVCA Board of Directors
Subject: **Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Municipal Asset Management Program
Funding Application**
From: Todd Casier, CPA, CA, Manager, Finance and Administrative Services

Background:

Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority was instructed to create an Asset Management plan as part of our Strategic Plan 2016-2021. Changes to the Conservation Authorities Act have diverted staff resources to complete the many tasks associated with these revisions and accompanying regulations. A recent opportunity (the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Municipal Asset Management Program) has emerged that will allow the LTVCA to apply for 80% of the funding required to complete the LTVCA Asset Management Plan. This will significantly help staff complete this task as staff time is being challenged by additional work required under Bill 229. Applications for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Municipal Asset Management Program are due by July 15, 2022.

Summary:

PSD Citywide presented an Asset Management for Conservation Authorities Workshop to all of the Conservation Authorities. The presentation showed asset management plans, software and a funding opportunity to complete an asset management plan. After the presentation the Lower Thames contacted PSD Citywide to discuss it's asset management plan and ask for assistance with its application to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Municipal Asset Management Program. PSD Citywide is preparing plans for a number of CAs and LTVCA feels the company competently understands CA business.

PSD Citywide is able to assist the Lower Thames with it's application to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Municipal Asset Management Program to advance our asset management program and able to assist with an Asset Management Plan (addressing all asset categories: trails, roads, parks, facilities, water gauges, bridges & structural culverts, vehicles, machinery & equipment). If approved, PSD Citywide will providing the following:

1. Preparation of the inventory analysis and state of the infrastructure report.
2. Asset Management Strategies including lifecycle management documentation, risk analysis, and growth assumptions.
3. Financial strategies including the review of funding levels against requirements and the development of financial strategy scenarios.

Financial Implications:

If successful, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Municipal Asset Management Program will provide 80% of the funding to complete the LTVCA Asset Management Plan up to a total of \$50,000. This means that LTVCA will have to contribute a maximum of \$10,000 to complete the plan. Staff believe that savings from Administrative Services in 2022 can cover this cost, but

should this not occur, staff recommend removing \$10,000 from the accumulated operating surplus to cover these costs.

Recommendation:

Be it resolved that Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority Board of Directors directs staff to apply for a grant opportunity from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Municipal Asset Management Program for Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority Asset Management Plan, and

That the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority commits to conducting the following activities in its proposed project submitted with assistance from PSD Citywide to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Municipal Asset Management Program to advance our asset management program.

Asset Management Plan (addressing all asset categories: trails, roads, parks, facilities, water gauges, bridges & structural culverts, vehicles, machinery & equipment)

Description:

1. Preparation of the inventory analysis and state of the infrastructure report, delivered by PSD Citywide.
2. Asset Management Strategies including lifecycle management documentation, risk analysis, and growth assumptions, delivered by PSD Citywide.
3. Financial strategies including the review of funding levels against requirements and the development of financial strategy scenarios, delivered by PSD Citywide, and

Be it further resolved that the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority commits a maximum of \$10,000 from its 2022 budget/operating surplus toward the costs of this initiative.

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

Reviewed by:

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

Directors were emailed the recommendation on July 4, 2022 requesting they respond either in favour or against by July 8, 2022. Directors were email on July 12, 2022 that the MOTION had passed.

Eight directors in favour and four directors did not respond.

7. Presentations

7.1) Heritage Cabin Accessibility and Renovation Project

Alison Klages will provide a brief presentation about the Heritage Cabin Accessibility and Renovation Project.

7.2) Revitalization of Livermore House

Randall Van Wagner will provide an update on the renovations to the “Livermore House” at Longwoods.

7.3) 2023 Budget Challenges

Todd Casier and Mark Peacock to present.

7.4) Beginning the LTVCA Strategic Plan Process

Mark Peacock and Valerie Towsley to present.

9. Business for Approval

9.1) Income and Expenditure vs Budget to June 30, 2022

Date: August 18, 2022,
Memo to: LTVCA Board of Directors
Subject: **Income and Expenditure vs Budget to June 30, 2022**
From: Todd Casier, CPA, CA, Manager, Finance and Administrative Services

Background:

Review the 2022 Budget to the Revenue and Expenditures for the 6 months ended June 30, 2022.

REVENUE	2022 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET JUN PROJECTED	2022 ACTUAL TO JUN 30	\$ VARIANCE TO PROJECTED
GRANTS	1,542,782	773,841 *	988,884	215,043
GENERAL LEVY	1,506,624	1,506,624 ^	1,506,624	0
DIRECT SPECIAL BENEFIT	205,000	205,000 ^	205,000	0
GENERAL REVENUES	638,100	316,600 *	450,785	134,185
FOUNDATION GRANTS & REVENUES	0	0 *	6,144	6,144
RESERVES	0	0 *	0	0
CASH FUNDING	3,892,506	2,802,065	3,157,437	355,372
OTHER	0	0	0	0
TOTAL FUNDING	3,892,506	2,802,065	3,157,437	355,372

*-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 grants including Rondeau Barrier Beach, OMAF, ALUS Chatham-Kent, ALUS Elgin and Species At Risk.

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, spent funds for grant programs not invoiced are set-up as receivables and added to grant income, 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 as of August 11, 2022.

General Revenue is above budget due to the following factors:

- Planning & Regulations is above budget due to increased demand, Conservation Areas is above budget due to receiving seasonal camping revenue and Conservation Education and Ska-Nah-Doht Village are above budget due to returning schools.

Foundation Grants and Revenues budget are zero because of the uncertainty of funds available. The amount recorded is due to the payment of an invoice for Longwoods CA and for signs for Wilson by the Foundation.

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

EXPENSES	2022 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET JUN PROJECTED	2022 ACTUAL TO JUN 30	\$ VARIANCE TO PROJECTED
WATER MANAGEMENT				
FLOOD CONTROL STRUCTURES	183,042	91,521	69,050	(22,471)
EROSION CONTROL STRUCTURES	12	6	4	(2)
FLOOD FORECASTING AND WARNING	202,762	101,381	70,339	(31,042)
TECHNICAL STUDIES	124,979	62,490	98,633	36,143
PLANNING & REGULATIONS	378,967	189,483	189,898	415
WATERSHED MONITORING (PGMN)	124,315	62,157	78,870	16,713
SOURCE PROTECTION	31,878	15,939	11,987	(3,952)
THAMES MOUTH DEBRIS REMOVAL	0	0	0	0
Water Management Subtotal	1,045,955	522,977	518,781	(4,196)
CONSERVATION & RECREATION PROPERTIES				
CONSERVATION AREAS	626,125	313,062	363,195	50,133
COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND EDUCATION				
COMMUNITY RELATIONS	161,719	80,860	72,289	(8,571)
CONSERVATION EDUCATION	84,111	42,055	12,512	(29,543)
SKA-NAH-DOHT VILLAGE	130,575	65,288	54,784	(10,504)
Community Relations & Education Subtotal	376,405	188,203	139,585	(48,618)
CONSERVATION SERVICES/STEWARDSHIP				
CONSERVATION SERVICES (FORESTRY)	94,006	47,003	57,380	10,377
CHATHAM-KENT GREENING PROJECT	541,174	270,587	300,556	29,969
PHOSPHORUS REDUCTION	908,429	454,215	589,419	135,204
SPECIES AT RISK	300,412	150,206	208,096	57,890
Conservation Services/Stewardship Subtotal	1,844,021	922,011	1,155,451	233,440
CAPITAL/MISCELLANEOUS				
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING	0	0	0	0
REPAIRS/UPGRADES	0	0	0	0
UNION GAS CENTENNIAL PROJECT	0	0	0	0
EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS (FED/PROV)	0	0	0	0
Capital/Miscellaneous Subtotal	0	0	0	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	3,892,506	1,946,253	2,177,012	230,759

Water Management

Flood Control Structures is below budget due to several large annual invoices received later in the year.

Flood Forecasting and Warning expenses are below budget due to several large annual invoices received later in the year and no flood event on the Thames River to June 30th, 2022.

Technical Studies are above budget due the Cambium project nearing completion and the staff time require and staff time and services performed for the Rondeau Barrier Beach Grant and not included in the budget.

Planning and Regulations is comparable to budget.

Watershed Monitoring is above budget due to March 31 year-end budget expenditures and staff time to complete this grant.

Source Protection is below budget due to timing of when staff work on this program.

Conservation Areas

Conservation area expenses are above budget due the costs of opening of the Conservation Area campgrounds, work on a rental house to prepare it to be rented again and some of the other larger operations costs being incurred.

Community Relations and Education

Community Relations, Conservation Education and SKA-NAH-DOHT Museum and Village are below budget due to the seasonal nature of large activities in these programs and one staff on leave.

Conservation Services/Stewardship

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

Phosphorous Reduction is above budget mostly due new ALUS Chatham-Kent and Elgin grants and the related expenses and to equipment purchased for a new project with Chippewas of the Thames First Nation and all not included in the budget.

Species at Risk is above budget due to March 31 year-end budget expenditures and another grant with the related expenses.

Capital/Miscellaneous

No Capital/Miscellaneous expenses to date.

Summary:

	2022 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET JUN PROJECTED	2022 ACTUAL TO JUN 30	\$ VARIANCE TO PROJECTED
TOTAL CASH FUNDING	3,892,506	2,802,065	3,157,437	355,372
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	3,892,506	1,946,253	2,177,012	230,759
OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	0	855,812	980,425	124,613
LESS: ACQUISITION OF CAPITAL ASSET	0	0		0
NET CASH FUNDING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	0	855,812	980,425	124,613

At June 30, 2022, 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 annual 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, 2022.

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

9.2) Hearing Fees - LTVCA

As outlined in previous reports to the Board, the LTVCA's regulations staff have been facing increased workload challenges and capacity issues as a result of high development pressures throughout the watershed – demands that have been increasingly evident since 2019. Capacity has gradually been added to the planning and regulations unit and continues to be sought in order to meet these increasing pressures and demands.

The LTVCA is committed to delivering the best possible services with our available staff and resources. In doing so, the LTVCA continues to implement changes, review opportunities to create efficiencies, and increase transparency to better improve our customer service. As part of such, administration is proposing another modification to the fee schedule.

The modification to the fee schedule reflects increased demand on the regulations program and our role in engineering, planning and environmental studies, hazard mapping, shoreline management projects, and other related demands. Specifically, administration is recommending an increase to the hearing fee. Below is a comparison of fees between the LTVCA and our neighbouring Conservation Authorities for Section 28 Hearings:

Description	Comparison of 2022 Fee Schedule				
	ERCA	SCRCA	UTRCA	KCCA	LTVCA
Hearing Fee	None*	\$805	\$800 to \$5,000**	None***	\$400

* ERCA doesn't charge fees for hearings. However, they've set their regular permit fees higher to offset overall expenses for the program (including hearing fees).

** The board of the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) recently (June) approved increasing their hearing fee from \$210 to a three tiered system ranging from \$800 to \$5,000 depending on the complexity of the application and hearing. "Streamlined Hearings" are \$800, "Full Hearings – Intermediate" are \$1,200 and "Full Hearings – Major" are \$5,000.

*** Kettle Creek Conservation Authority (KCCA) staff are reportedly proposing to introduce a hearing fee later in 2022. It's been reported that they may introduce a fee of \$400. It's important to note that the KCCA's regulations program demands aren't easily comparable to the LTVCA. As an example, in 2021 the LTVCA received 684 permit applications and 6 required hearings whereas the KCCA had a total of 86 permit applications in 2021 and 0 hearings.

Administration is proposing to increase the fee for a hearing. The current \$400 fee was first introduced in 2010 and hasn't changed since despite workload, inflation, and funding changes. The current fee does not cover the costs associated with the workload required for a hearing. Hearings require additional review from staff, management, legal experts, board members, etc..

In addition, the existing hearing fee is considered to be low as a number of applicants have compared it to the overall cost of their proposal (e.g. house) or to the cost of materials for their proposal (such as how little it can buy in lumber). The low hearing fee has been cited by applicants as being "worth the shot" to potentially gain approval by the Executive Committee for a proposal that doesn't align with the LTVCA's board-approved policies.

Staff would like to propose an increase to the hearing fee to better cover costs and provide better service. Staff propose a hearing fee of \$1,000.

Recommendation:

That the S.28 Permit Fee Schedule be adjusted to note that fees for hearings will be \$1,000.

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

- 1. Strengthen and Increase Collaboration with Community Stakeholders*
- 2. Increase the Awareness of the Value of Good Watershed Stewardship*
- 4. Improve Transparency and Understanding of Financial Statements*

9.3) S.28 Permits & Sheds

Historically, the LTVCA has taken a position in that if the local building department didn't require a building permit for a shed, then the LTVCA wouldn't require a permit for the same provided the shed wasn't located in the floodway of a watercourse, on a dock, or on an unstable slope. The LTVCA's board-approved policies specify that the footprint must be less than 10 m² in order negate the need for a permit.

Ontario Regulation 451/22 made under the Building Code Act, 1992, came into effect on April 29, 2022. The regulation increased the gross area threshold for a shed not requiring a building permit. The gross area threshold was increased from 10 m² (~108 sq. ft.) to 15 m² (161 sq. ft.). The specific section that was changed is below:

Sheds are exempt from the requirements to obtain a building permit and are exempt from compliance with the building code provided that the shed,

- 1) Is not more than 15 m² in gross area;*
- 2) Is not more than one storey in building height;*
- 3) Is not attached to a building or any other structure;*
- 4) Is used only for storage purposes ancillary to a principal building on the lot; and,*
- 5) Does not have plumbing.*

Currently, landowners who want to construct or place a shed that is equal to or under 15 m² and meets the remaining above conditions don't require a building permit from their municipality. As such, they aren't directed to our office for a permit which, technically, is required under the LTVCA's regulation (O. Reg. 152/06).

There is no consensus amongst conservation authorities on how sheds are treated. Some require permits for sheds regardless of the size (e.g. even if it's only 4 m²). Some, like the LTVCA, match the provincial building code for size. Some have their own definition of size which doesn't require a permit. Staff contacted our neighbouring conservation authorities and all are in the process of reviewing their policies / practices and considering updating to match the new building code size specification.

The below table lists the pros and cons for keeping things status quo and for increasing the size threshold from 10 m² to 15 m²:

	Pro	Con
Status Quo (10 m²)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No written policy changes required	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lack of municipal support• Majority of sheds would likely appear without permits anyways• Increased enforcement costs (compounded with current enforcement backlog and issues)
Increase (15 m²)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aligns with recent provincial changes• Better municipal support• Reduces "red tape" for relatively small value projects• Increases workflow efficiencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increases the potential size of structures in a hazard without bringing awareness about the hazard

Staff recommend increasing the size threshold from 10 m² to 15 m² to align with our municipal partners but to continue to prohibit sheds of any size in the floodway of a watercourse, on a dock, and/or on an unstable slope.

Recommendation:

That staff be directed to update the 2019 Operational Guidelines and the 2019 Chatham-Kent Lake Erie Shoreline Development Policies to increase the shed permit exemption threshold from 10 m² to 15 m².

9.4) Heritage Cabin Accessibility and Renovation Project

In May of 2022 Alison Klages, Curator of Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum submitted an application for support of the Heritage Cabin Accessibility and Renovation Project to the Ontario's Southwest Tourism Relief Fund. On July 13, 2022 a conditional offer of support for 100% of the project, up to \$60 000 was offered. All initial documentation has been submitted to Ontario's Southwest Tourism for final approval. All work must be completed by December 31, 2022.

The Heritage Cabin Accessibility and Renovation Project aims to revitalize the Heritage Log Cabins that are located at Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum (SND) in Longwoods Road Conservation Area (Mount Brydges, Ontario, rural Southwestern Ontario, approximate population of 2000) as part of the commemoration of our 50th anniversary. The goal of the project is to open these buildings to the public on a day-to-day basis as well as improve the accessibility and structural integrity of these spaces. The Heritage Log Cabins were built by members of the three local First Nations Communities: Oneida Nation of the Thames (built circa 1850), Munsee-Delaware Nation (built 1880s), and Chippewas of the Thames First Nation (built 1820s), and are of cultural significance to them.

The project will be completed in the lead-up to SND's 50th Anniversary, and will redevelop the cabins into display spaces and improve their infrastructure for continued use during public and education programming and events hosted by SND, LTVCA, local First Nations Communities, and other organizations.

The project will result in:

- replacement of 2 timbers at both the Oneida and Munsee-Delaware Cabins
- construction of new accessibility ramps
- installation of eavestroughs and downspouts
- installation of a fireplace at the Chippewas Cabin
- purchase of new exhibit furniture
- creation and installation of displays
- new wayfinding signage for the museum

Access to the Heritage Log Cabins and site accessibility were identified as areas of public concern in the 2017 Longwoods Road Conservation Area Visioning Exercise. Through the proposed renovations, the opening of the Heritage Log Cabins to the public, and collaborative development of the interpretation offered at these buildings with their respective Nations, SND will be actively addressing the needs of our community, fulfilling the request of the local Nations not represented by the recreated longhouse Village to have their heritage shared on-site, and acting on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action.

The atmosphere of these heritage buildings and their connection to the local First Nations communities adds significant value to education programs, and will be a substantial enhancement to day-to-day visitation.

Given the tight timeline and specialized nature of certain aspects of the work being completed in this project, i.e. the replacement of timbers (logs) at the cabins, it is requested that the Board of Directors wave the requirement for 3 proposals or quotes to be obtained for aspects of this project.

Recommendation:

That the requirement for 3 proposals for specialized work associated with this project be waived.

Prepared By:
Alison Klages, M.A.
Curator Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum

Recommended By:
Mark Peacock, P. Eng.
CAO, Secretary Treasurer

9.5) 2023 Preliminary Budget Preparation and Assumptions Report

Date: August 18, 2022
Memo to: LTVCA Board of Directors
Subject: **2023 Preliminary Budget Preparation and Assumptions Report**
From: Todd Casier, CPA, CA, Manager, Financial and Administrative Services

Background:

As part of the current Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority Strategic Plan (2016-2021) the Conservation Authority developed 12 objectives in 4 General Areas. The Financial Objectives were as follows:

4. Improve Transparency and Understanding of Financial Statements
5. Improve Capital Asset Review
6. Strengthen Staff Stability (financial stability, attraction & retention)

In order to achieve objective 4, a number of initiatives were defined. Year 1, 3 & 5 of these initiatives have been achieved including preparation of financial statement for each board meeting which improves the boards understanding of the financial position of the LTVCA, involving Managers in their budget process and allowing Managers to manage their budgets in collaboration with the Manager, Finance and Administrative Services.

Objective	Ownership	Measurement	Candidate Initiatives	Budget Implications
4. Improve Transparency and Understanding of Financial Statements	Financial Services Specialist & Management Team	Quarterly statements for each program reviewed with program managers	Year 1- Quarterly statements reflecting reality	Budget neutral
			Year 3- Managers have adequate information and capacity for financial decisions	Budget neutral
			Year 5- Managers manage budgets in collaboration with Todd	Budget neutral

To address this requirement, in 2018 the budgeting process was revised, allowing managers more say in budget development and more responsibility in financial management of their departments. In order to provide additional time for staff consultation to occur, this preliminary budget report is being presented at the August 2022 Board meeting.

2023 Budget Preparation Process:

- 1) August/September – spreadsheets prepared showing each account with current to date results, the past two years of actuals and initial proposed budget assuming:
 - a) Salaries carried forward with increase based on merit and 3.5% COLA increases
 - b) Payroll allocated based on past experience and current expectations
 - c) Projects being carried forward will be based on known expectations
 - d) General Expenses based on past trends modified by current expectations
- 2) August/September – Managers review staff work plans with staff to determine changes and new projects/priorities/requirements for 2023 budget

- 3) August/September – Todd provide spreadsheets to managers for their areas of budget
- 4) August – Budget Preparation Report to Board providing general assumptions and process to develop 2023 preliminary budget
- 5) August - November continue meeting with municipalities regarding 2023 budget assumptions at their convenience
- 6) September/October – Mark and Todd meet with individual Managers to review and prepare preliminary budget (more than one meeting per manager may be required)
- 7) September/October – Mark and Todd meet to review overall budget and challenges and compile complete preliminary budget
- 8) September/October – meeting with managers to review preliminary budget prior to finalization
- 9) October Board Meeting – Preliminary Budget and levy presented to the Board of Directors for review and approval
- 10) October – budget and levy circulation and notification (min 30 days as per Act)
- 11) January – final review of budget with management team
- 12) February – final review and approval by board at annual meeting

Budget Preparation Assumptions:

The budget will be prepared based on:

1. 5% total general levy increase,
2. Merit increases for staff to be considered in draft budget,
3. Cost of living increases of 3.5% will be provided to staff in 2023

Details for drivers to be presented at August Board Meeting.

Recommendations:

That the Board approve the budget assumption of a 5% general levy increase, and

That staff bring the preliminary 2023 budget to the October meeting for review and approval.

Recommended by:

Todd Casier, CPA, CA,

Manager, Financial and Administrative Services

Reviewed by:

Mark Peacock, P. Eng.

CAO / Secretary-Treasurer

10. Business for Information

10.1) C.A.O.s Report

Date: August 18, 2022

Memo to: LTVCA Board of Directors

Subject: C.A.O.'s Report

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

Update on Indigenous Community Education Centre and Revitalization of the Longwoods Road Resource Centre

The last two months have been very busy with the start up of the Indigenous Community Education Centre and Revitalization of the Longwoods Road Resource Centre and Ska-Nah-Doht Museum. As discussed at our July meeting the Architectural, Structural, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering contract has been awarded. All paperwork (insurance etc.) has been received and executed. The design team is moving quickly forward with their work. A meeting was held on August 17 with the design team and staff to review details. Staff have been preparing the detailed site plan including the septic design and should have this delivered to the municipality by the end of the month after meetings with the structural engineer. The first reporting to the federal government has been completed and a draw for costs to date is being issued. We are continuing to wait for the federal government to let us know when we can formally announce the project funding.

LTVCA staff are working with the LTVCFoundation to develop a fundraising campaign for the Foundation's share of the project. A detailed draft business plan has been prepared and decisions regarding hiring a campaign manager will be made in the near future.

Bill 229 - Agreements with Municipalities and Strategic Planning

As part of the process to implement requirements of Bill 229 (Changes to the Conservation Authorities Act) Val Towsley and I have been meeting with a number of municipal staff and councils over the last few months. We are pleased to have signed planning agreements with the 3 Elgin County municipalities in our watershed. We are working with staff on details for the 3 Middlesex and 2 Essex County municipalities. Additionally, we have had meetings with staff of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent. We are still moving forward with trying to have all planning agreements signed by November of this year. We have determined that given the limited amount of Non-Mandatory review that we complete for the City of London, we will not be moving forward with a planning agreement with the City at this time.

As part of requirements under Bill 229 a Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy will be prepared by the end of 2024. It is the intent of the LTVCA to marry this document with our strategic plan update. Staff will be working with the community and stakeholders to ensure community input into the document. The Board of Directors approved the Thames River (Deshkan Ziibi) Shared Waters Approach to Water Quality & Quantity. Or The Shared Water Approach (SWA) in 2021 and this watershed planning document will form an important element of the strategic plan.

During the Board meeting of August 18, 2022, staff will review the current Vision, Mission and Guiding Principles with the Board to ensure Board input prior to going to the public asking for input. Additionally, staff will review the intended process to be undertaken to update the Strategic Plan.

Recommendation:

The C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer 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

10.2) Water Management

10.2.1) Flood Forecasting and Operations

Flood Messaging and Flood Events

There have been only 2 flood messages issued since the last written report to the Board of Directors. Both of these messages were standing message issued for Lake St. Clair and Lake Erie shoreline flooding and intended to cover the months of July and August. It has been a fairly dry summer thus far (which is reflected in the Low Water Response Program report below) and as a result there have been no predicted rainfall events large enough to trigger flood messages. In addition, there have not been any significant wind events to generate large waves and cause shoreline flooding. At the Erieau weather station (run by ECCC) there have been no recorded events with winds above 30 km/hr from a southerly direction since the last Board of Directors meeting.

Report on Lake Conditions

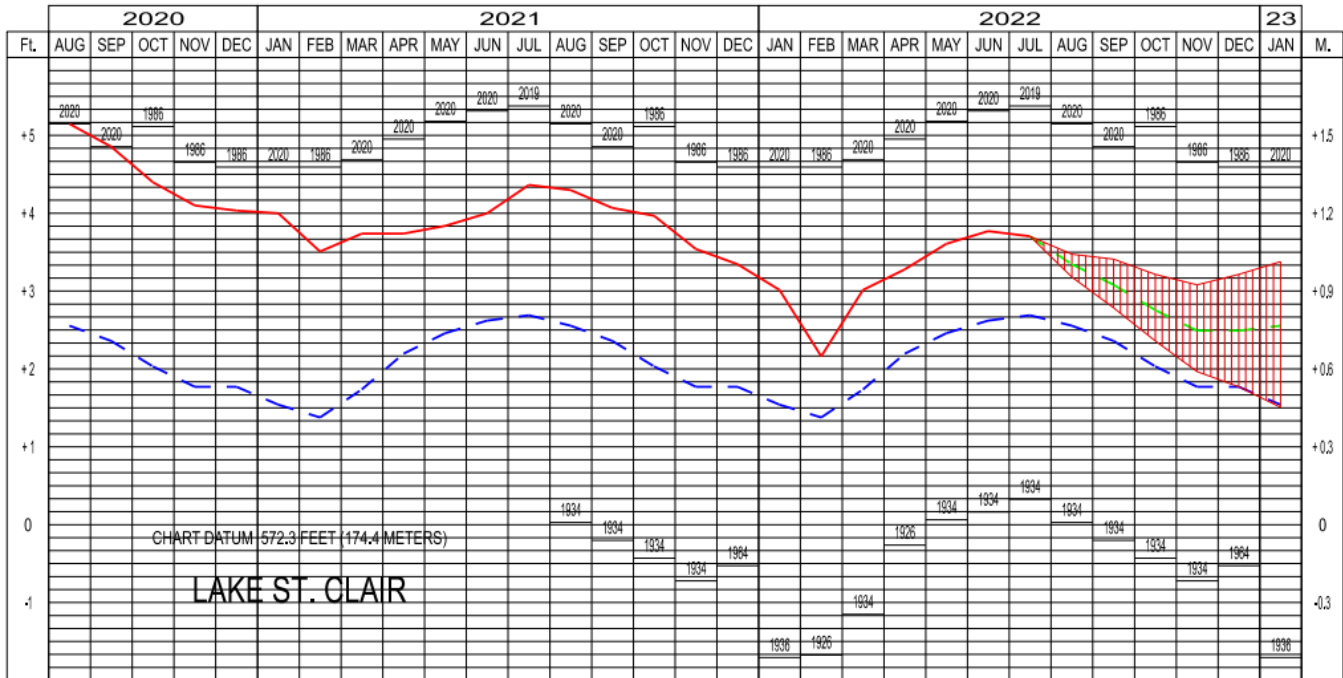
Average daily water levels on Lake Erie at the beginning of August were around 174.55 m (I.G.L.D.). This is down about 32 cm from last year's peak daily average water level record set on July 21st. The all-time record high monthly average for August was 175.02 m, set in 2019. Water levels at the beginning of August were still 27 cm above what would be considered normal for the month of August. Water levels on Lake Erie peaked in June and are now into their seasonal decline. Forecasts suggest water levels could drop around 10 cm by the beginning of September.

Average daily water levels on Lake St. Clair at the beginning of August were around 175.48 m (I.G.L.D.). This is down about 33 cm from last year's peak daily average water level record set on July 17th. The all-time record high monthly average for August was 175.97, set in 2020. Water levels at the beginning of August were 30 cm above what would be considered normal for the month of August. Water levels on Lake St. Clair peaked in June and are now into their seasonal decline. Forecasts suggest water levels could drop by around 5 cm by the beginning of September.

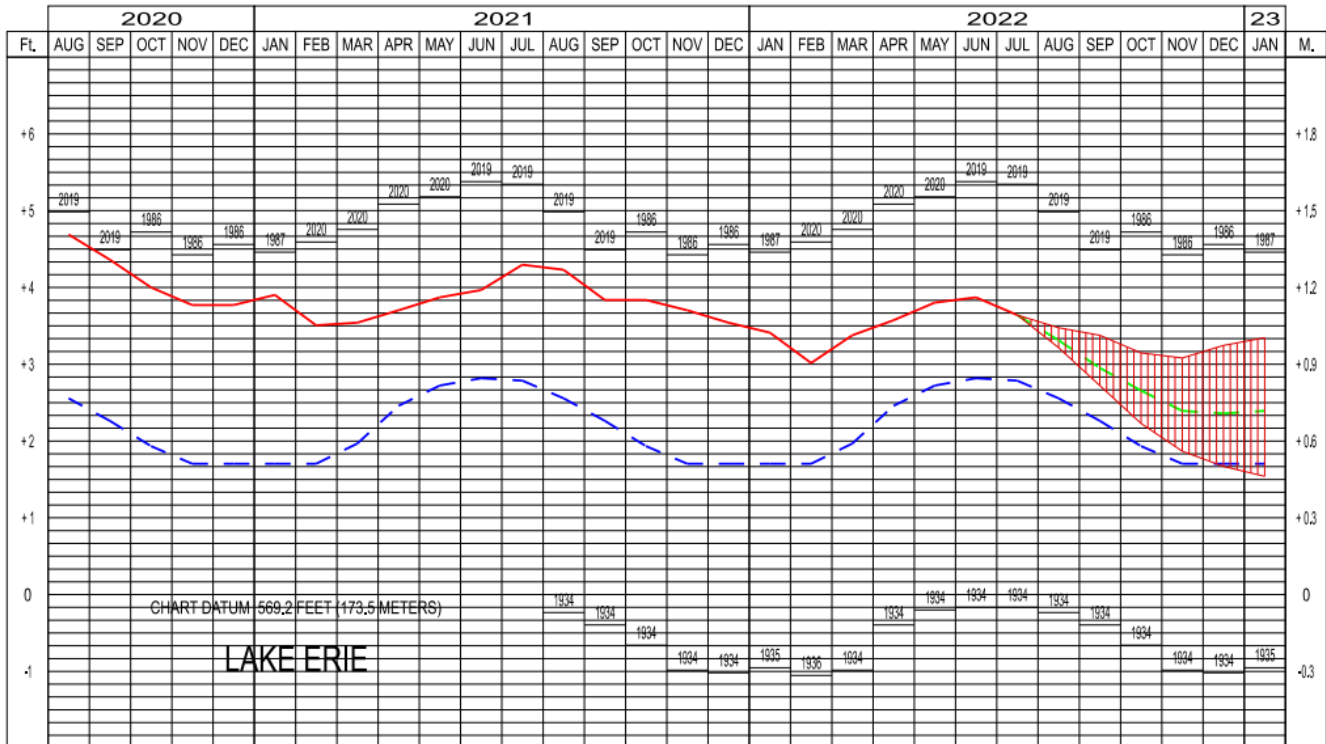
While current water levels on the lakes are still around 30 cm above average for this time of the year, water levels on both Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair have fallen back down below August water levels seen from 2017 to 2021. Long range forecasts suggest that water levels are now trending more towards normal. Stronger wind events (most likely gale force wind events) are now required to cause flooding along the LTVCA's Lake St. Clair shoreline and along most of its Lake Erie shoreline. However, Erie Shore Drive is likely still more vulnerable at lower wind speeds. As autumn approaches and more frequent strong wind events appear, the LTVCA and municipal staff will need to pay close attention to the new conditions that produce flooding along the road.

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 2022



LAKE ERIE WATER LEVELS - AUGUST 2022



LEGEND

LAKE LEVELS

RECORDED

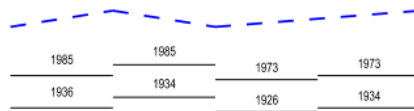
PROJECTED



AVERAGE **

MAXIMUM **

MINIMUM **



** Average, Maximum and Minimum for period 1918-2021

10.2.2) Flood Control Structures

There has been little activity surrounding the LTVCA's flood control structures over the last few months. It has been a relatively dry last few months so there have been no operations since the last report. Seasonal maintenance has continued for the 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.

A Level 1 Low Water Condition was declared in June based on the rainfall deficit seen over the prior 3-month period. Lower than normal amounts of precipitation were also seen throughout most of the watershed in July and August. The 3-month rainfall indicators for most of the watershed (other than the far east and west ends) continued to show a Level 1 Low Water Condition. In Chatham-Kent, the conditions have been even dryer with the 3-month indicator values right around the Level 2 threshold. Taking in consideration the uncertainty in the calculations, the geographic area each station represents, and heavy rains seen at the beginning of August, the watershed is still best represented by a Level 1 condition. The dry period has had an impact on water levels in the Thames River as well and the monthly average flows at Dutton and Thamesville indicate a Level 1 Low Water Condition as well. This dry period has not yet had an impact on the longer 18-month rainfall indicator as those numbers don't indicate a low water condition.

Based on this information, the Lower Thames Watershed still remains in a Level 1 Low Water Condition. Due to the dry conditions in June and July, unless rainfall conditions improve substantially in August, the Level 1 Conditions will likely continue into the autumn. The recommended action under a Low Water Level 1 Condition is to use existing communication channels to seek a voluntary 10% reduction in water usage from the relevant water sources.

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.

Funding from the COA grant only ran through to March 31st and was in the queue for renewal until the provincial election put a halt to such approvals. Now that the Ontario legislature is back in session and the 2022 budget has been tabled, it is anticipated that the agreement should be back in the queue to be approved shortly. The latest revision to the grant was updated to include activities related to monitoring the recurring algae blooms on the Thames River. A special sensor was obtained from ECCC to allow for monitoring algae. The use of this sensor has already been used in the lead up to this season's algae bloom. It is hoped that the sensor can provide further information regarding how these blooms are forming.

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 9th (see forecast below).

As of August 9th, the NOAA HAB interactive map appeared to show blooms in the western basin of Lake Erie along the U.S. shoreline extending as far east as Sandusky Bay. On Lake St. Clair there appears to be a narrow band of bloom along the eastern shoreline in the former township of Dover.

NOAA Western Lake Erie Harmful Algal Bloom Seasonal Forecast

30 June 2022



NOAA and our research partners forecast that western Lake Erie will experience a smaller-than-average cyanobacterial harmful algal bloom this summer. We expect the bloom to be less severe than last year (severity of 6) and similar to 2020.

We predict this year's bloom to have a severity of ~3.5 with a potential range between 2-4. The bloom severity is based on the quantity (biomass) of the bloom over a sustained 30-period. The largest blooms, in 2011 and 2015, were 10 and 10.5, respectively. The phosphorus load from the Maumee River (March-July) has the largest impact on bloom severity. The bloom forecast includes a projection for an average July load and will be updated in late-July as more data becomes available.

The size of the bloom does not necessarily indicate how toxic it is. During calm weather scums can form, which concentrate toxins at the surface. People and pets should not swim in areas with scum. The bloom varies in size and location throughout the summer and early fall, often due to wind. Many areas of the lake are safe to enjoy throughout 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 Institute for Science. For additional information on safe recreation, visit Ohio EPA's site on HABs: <https://epa.ohio.gov/HAB-Algae>.

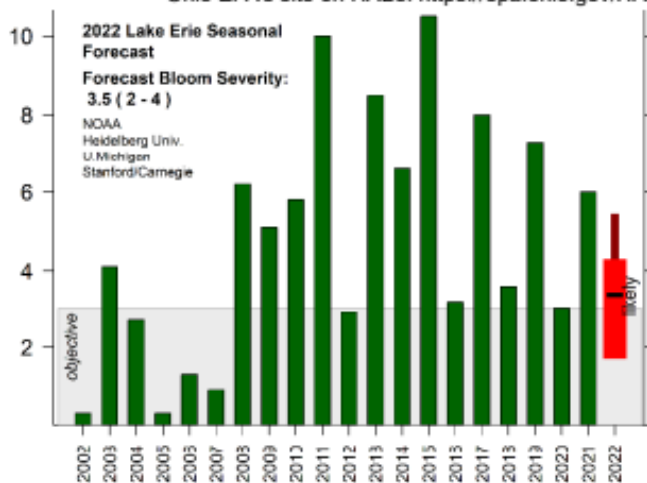


Figure 1. Bloom intensity forecast compared to previous years bloom. The wide red bar is the likely range of severity based on the different models used, the narrow red bar indicates possible range. A severity below 3 is the goal of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA).

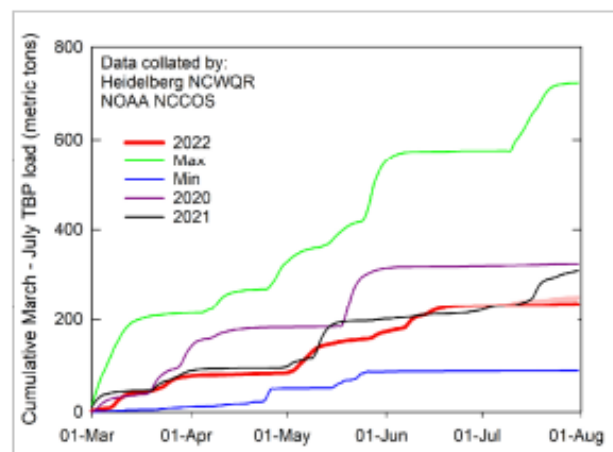


Figure 2. Cumulative total bioavailable phosphorus (TBP) load for the Maumee River at Waterville, OH. Each line denotes a different year. 2022 is shown in red, with the forecast range to August 1 in pink. The TBP load over the first week of July will have the greatest impact on bloom severity, and could push the bloom severity to the maximum value (4).

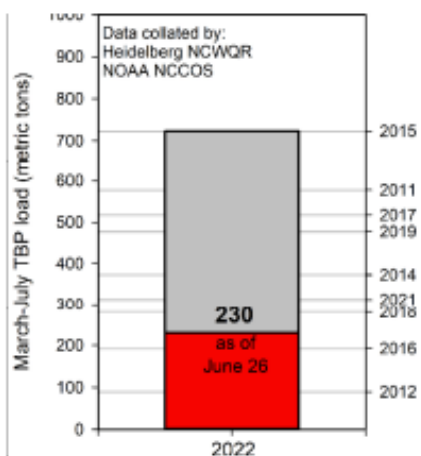


Figure 3. Total bioavailable phosphorus (TBP) load accumulated for the Maumee River near Waterville, OH to date (230 metric tons) shown in red with the upper likely estimate for the end of July estimated as 233 metric tons.

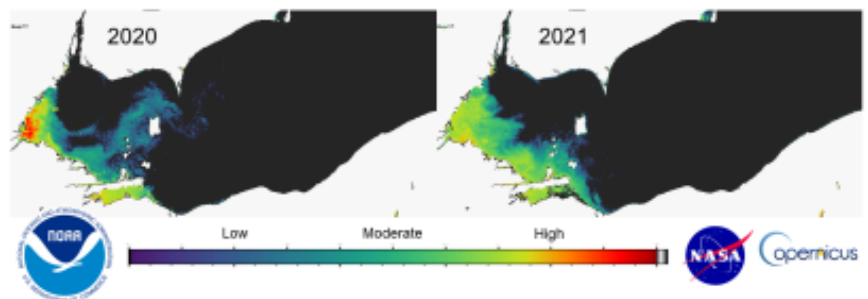


Figure 4. The maximum bloom intensity in 2020 (Aug. 21-31) and 2021 (Aug. 29-Sep. 7) collected with Copernicus Sentinel-3 data. 2022 may be similar to one of these blooms, depending on winds and July nutrient loads. In 2020, winds from the northeast tended to concentrate the bloom in a smaller, more concentrated area. In 2021, high loads in July and winds from the west, spread the bloom more thinly over a larger area. We cannot yet forecast which condition may occur. Bluish-green indicate lower concentrations, which would have been barely noticeable by eye on most days. Sandusky Bay has a different type of cyanobacteria that typically does not form scum.

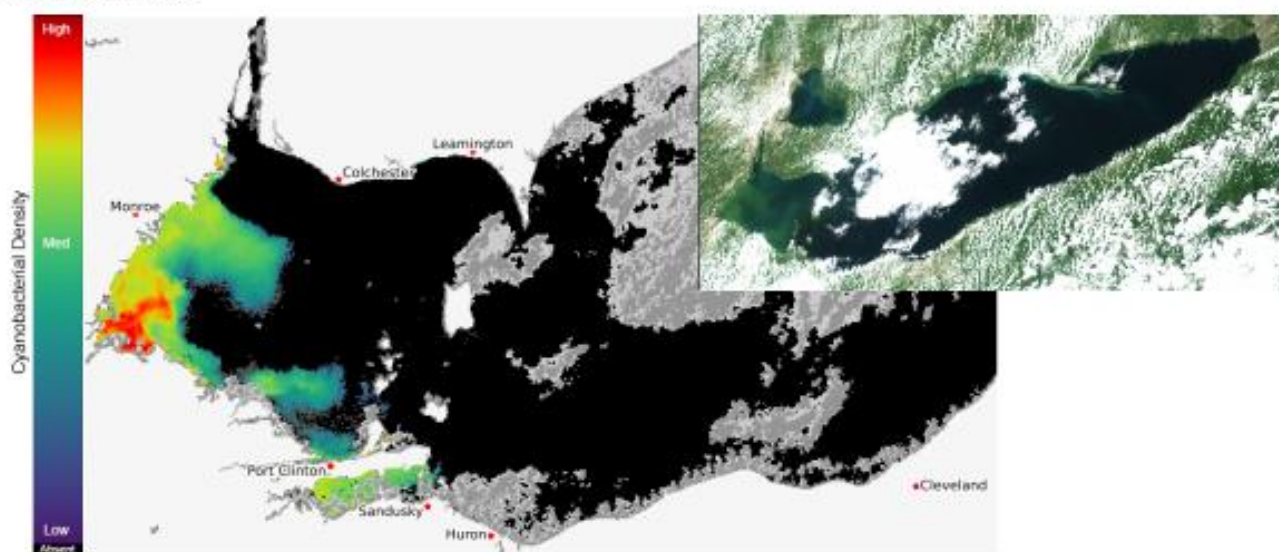
Lake Erie Harmful Algal Bloom Forecast



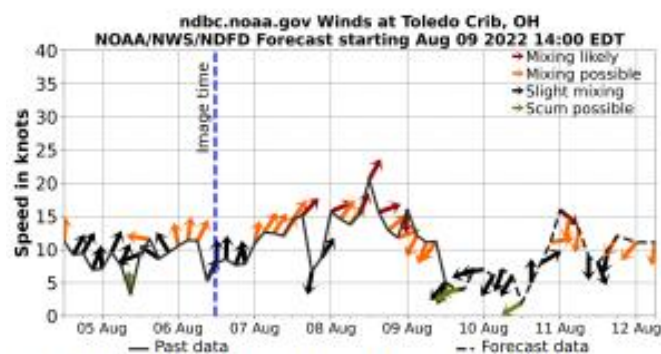
Imagery Analysis & Forecast - 2022-08-09

The *Microcystis* cyanobacteria bloom is present in western Lake Erie but cloud cover and winds prevent determining the area. As of Aug. 6th, the bloom extends from Maumee Bay north to Pointe Mouillee, MI and east from Maumee Bay to Catawba Island, OH. Sandusky Bay has a local bloom of cyanobacteria, which is persistent in most years. Toxins have been detected above the recreational limit. They can be highly concentrated in scums! If you see scum, keep your pets and yourself out of the water. In the satellite imagery or bloom forecast position products, any areas that are orange or red are likely to have scum, especially during calm winds, see Mixing Forecast product. --A. Hounshell 08/09

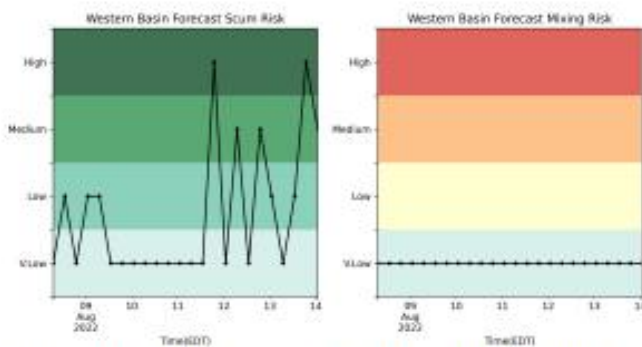
The past few days of imagery can be seen at [the HAB monitoring site](#). The Lake Erie Forecast is operated by the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science. Contact hab@noaa.gov for technical Questions. Last Updated: 2022-08-09 01 PM EDT



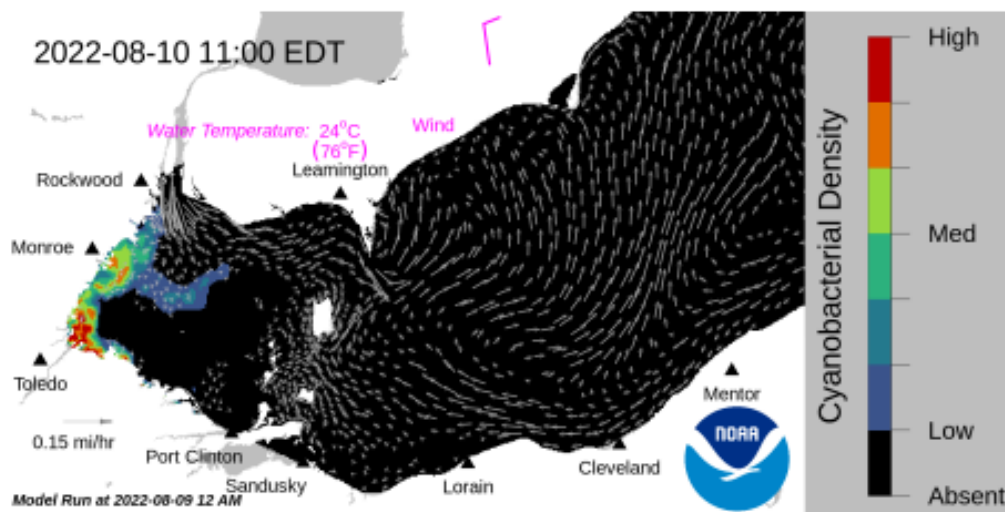
Current Lake Erie Sentinel-3 satellite imagery from the Ocean and Land Color Imager (OLCI) on Aug 06, 2022, showing bloom location and extent in the western basin. Grey indicates clouds or missing data. The estimated threshold of cyanobacteria detection is 20,000 cells/mL. Inset shows a truecolor image of the entire lake. Data derived from Copernicus Sentinel-3.



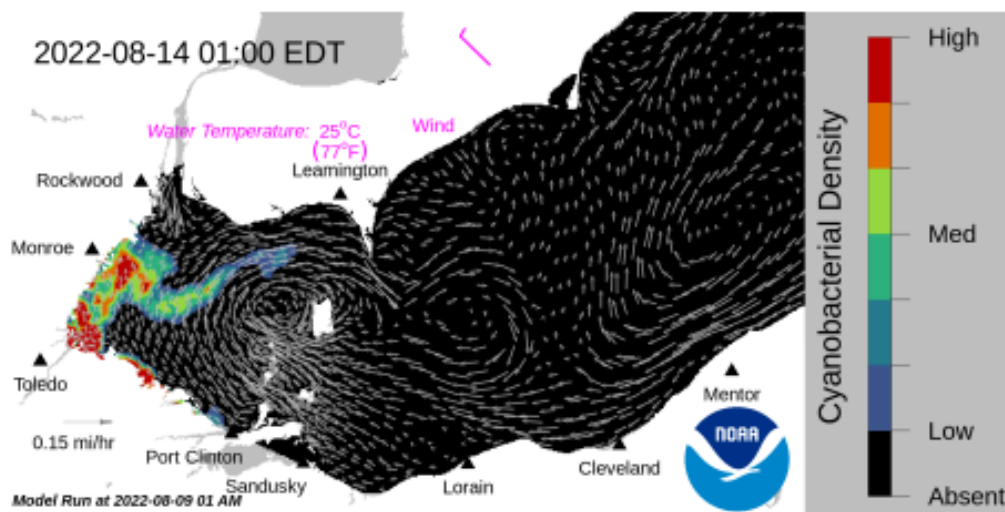
Wind speed and direction from ToledoCrib, OH. Blooms mix through water column at wind speeds > 15 knots.



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 10, 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 14. 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 Erie 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 in the city of Chatham experienced an algae bloom in early August. Such blooms have now almost become an annual occurrence. In 2017, 2019, and 2020 these algae blooms were dominated by blue-green species similar to those causing concerns in Lake Erie. Last year, a different kind of algae bloom occurred. Last year's bloom had a much lower proportion of blue-green algae and instead appeared dark brown or rusty brown that tended to form in streaks. Based on its appearance, the bloom was mistaken for an oil spill. This year's bloom looked very much like last year's bloom.

The bloom this year was first noticed on Monday, August 1st and was reported the LTVCA that evening. LTVCA staff contacted the Spills Action on August 2nd and MECP staff responded on August 3rd to investigate. Researchers at the Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research (University of Windsor), the MECP and ECCC were also notified about the bloom. The bloom seemed to be fairly localized to the city of Chatham and did not migrate very far. At its upstream extent, the bloom was quite obvious around 5th Street but by Communication Road the bloom was not detectable visually. The downstream extent of the bloom seemed to end just upstream of Dillon Road and Winter Line. The bloom was also noticed extending upstream into McGregor Creek and was quite obvious around the 6th Street Dam. While the bloom was still quite noticeable on Friday, August 5th, the bloom dissipated over the weekend and by Monday, August 8th the streaking had disappeared and what was left of the bloom was only detectable as a slight discolouration of the water in certain areas. Over the next couple of days, even the slight discolouration disappeared.

Again, this year the LTVCA received several inquiries about the bloom with residents thinking that it was an oil spill. As in past years, LTVCA staff were out in the field determining the extent of the bloom. Staff were also using an algae sensor to determine extents and characteristics of the bloom. The river will continue to be monitored throughout the rest of the summer to see if the bloom reappears.



Thames River from 5th Street bridge facing Tecumseh Park, August 4th, 2022



McGregor Creek at 6th Street Dam facing downstream, August 1st, 2022

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 the end of May 2022 through to the end of July 2022, there were 78 planning submissions reviewed by staff for this reporting season 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 36 phone calls and over 199 email responses to inquiries that staff have responded to.

Planning Numbers	2020 Totals	2021 Totals	Jan Totals	Feb Totals	March Totals	Apr Totals	May Totals	June Totals	July Totals	2022 Totals
Chatham-Kent	259	306	16	11	16	23	23	14	17	120
Elgin	67	79	5	4	4	8	7	21	12	61
Essex	46	36	4	1	1	2	6	2	4	20
Middlesex	35	54	4	1	5	3	4	8	0	25
Total Numbers	407	475	29	17	26	36	40	45	33	226

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

10.3.2) Bill 229 - Municipal Planning MOUs

Staff presented a Power Point presentation to Southwold and Middlesex Centre councils on July 11, 2022 and July 20, 2022 respectively for the Planning MOU. A draft final MOU was sent to both municipalities, with Southwold council passing the motion to accept the MOU at their July 11th meeting. Middlesex Council will more than likely be considering the Policy at their next council meeting.

CA staff have also had discussions with Southwest Middlesex staff on July 11, 2022 about the Draft MOU and a revised MOU was sent out on July 27th (for Southwest Middlesex as well as Strathroy-Caradoc) as the fee collection section was requested to be revised to note that proponents will be directed to the CA to pay the appropriate planning fee as per our new planning fee schedule. The municipalities will not consider an application complete on their end until they have a receipt from our office showing that our fee has been paid.

We are still pursuing an initial meeting with Chatham-Kent planning staff to discuss the draft MOU. We are also still waiting on ERCA as there have been discussions about a shared approach for Leamington and Lakeshore.

We have not pursued a joint MOU with KCCA and SCRCa with our shared members. KCCA determined that they did not require MOU's with Southwold, as they were not going to be providing Natural Heritage review for the Township. For SCRCa their timeline for getting out to the members with MOU's wasn't going to be until late fall, early 2023, which would impact our timelines for the next round of MOU's for Categories 2 and 3 (non-mandatory).

10.3.3) Dock Policy

At this point in time, CA staff have not heard back from either Lakeshore or Chatham-Kent staff for any input or comments on the Draft Dock Policy. As a result, the Policy has now been posted to the LTVCA's website as of August 2, 2022 under the 'Public Consultation and Bid Opportunities' tab, located here:

<https://www.lowerthames-conservation.on.ca/about-us/public-consultation-and-bid-opportunities/>

10.3.4) Section 28 Regulations / Permitting

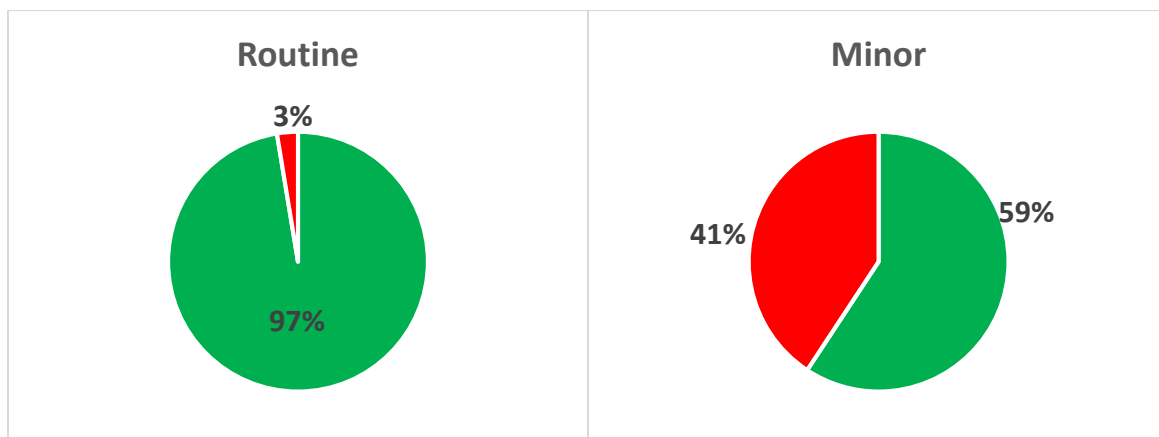
In the months of June and July, the LTVCA received 123 permit applications with respect to Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 152/06. Of the 366 permit applications received in the first seven months of 2022, all but 24 had been approved by staff. Three applications can't be approved by staff as they don't comply with board-approved policies and hearings in front of the Executive Committee have been requested (yet-to-be scheduled). As well, one application was cancelled by the applicant. Additionally, an application from 2021 has yet to receive a hearing decision from the Executive Committee. The remaining 19 applications were in the queue to be reviewed by staff as of the end of July.

The regulations program continues to experience a strong demand for resources. In an attempt to keep pace with the demand and to support the Regulations Technician, the Watershed Resource Planner and Water Resources Engineer continue to help with processing permits. The Planning Technician has been trained and is now providing support for the program by surveying for floodplain development applications. An Administrative Assistant for the Planning and Regulations program was hired in April 2022. They continue to be trained and are providing support to the program.

\$81,475 has been collected thus far this year (as of the end of July) in permit application and hearing fees.

10.3.5) Permit Processing Timelines

For applications issued since the last board report and up to the end of July, the charts and table below indicate that 97% of "routine" and 59% of "minor" permit applications met their applicable customer service standard for turnaround time. Permit turnaround times continue to lag behind the LTVCA's & Conservation Ontario's customer service standards.



Complexity of Application	# of Days to Review Permit Applications				
	0 - 14 Days	15 - 21 Days	21 - 28 Days	29 - 90 Days	> 90 Days
Routine	75	1	0	1	0
Minor	90	64	28	78	1
Major	0	0	0	0	1

For the months of June and July, the average turnaround time for a routine permit application was 1 day (ranged between 0 and 3 days). The customer service standard for routine permits is a turnaround within 14 days. The processing time for routine permit continues to meet customer service targets. This improvement is largely due to the Water Resources Engineer, who was hired near the end of 2020, taking on the task of processing most of the applications identified as being routine in complexity.

For the months of June and July, the average turnaround time for a minor permit application was 20 days (ranged between 0 and 49 days). For private property minor complexity permits, the average turnaround time was 24 days. The customer service standard for minor complexity permits is a turnaround within 21 days. The processing time for minor permit applications is not meeting the customer service targets.

Another required aspect of the Regulations program is the organization and handling of Hearings. It can take a significant amount of time to manage the applications up to the point a Hearing is deemed required and requested. Then, further time is required to prepare, arrange, and conduct the Hearings. There were four Hearings conducted in 2021 and four Hearings so far in 2022. There are three 2022 applications which require a Hearing (yet to be scheduled).

10.3.6) Property Inquiries

Up to the end of July, 809 property inquiries (including permit pre-consultation questions) were received and responded to by the Regulations Program which is 147 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 1-5 business days for e-mails and up to 5 business days for phone calls.

10.3.7) Section 28 Enforcement

In the first seven months of 2022, twenty-one complaints / tips were received from the public about possible Section 28 enforcement issues. Seventeen out of twenty-one issues are confirmed violations or potential violations of the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 152/06. None of the issues 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

App No.	Location	Community/ Township	Municipality	Decision	Processing Time (days)
2022 Permits					
073-2022	20929 Pickerel Road	Wheatley	Chatham-Kent	Refused: June 27, 2022	123
214-2022	Centreville Drive	Mosa	Southwest Middlesex	Granted: June 07, 2022	42
219-2022	16015 Lakeshore Rd 310	Comber	Lakeshore	Granted: June 8, 2022	36
220-2022	36 William St	Shrewsbury	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	22
221-2022	11906 Bates Drive	Morpeth	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 09, 2022	38
226-2022	19300 Lakeside Drive	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Granted: June 08, 2022	19
229-2022	28 Wood Street	Shrewsbury	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 14, 2022	32
230-2022	950 Grand Ave W	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 16, 2022	31
232-2022	Lakeshore Road 303	Tilbury	Lakeshore	Granted: July 27, 2022	7
233-2022	5263 Tecumseh Line	Tilbury	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 16, 2022	23
234-2022	721 Tisdelle Drive	Tilbury	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 16, 2022	23
235-2022	8 Wolfe St	Shrewsbury	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 24, 2022	18
237-2022	19075 Haven Ave	Tilbury	Lakeshore	Granted: June 16, 2022	22
238-2022	McCahon Br No.2 of the Wiley Drain	Mosa	Southwest Middlesex	Granted: June 02, 2022	6
239-2022	435 Mariner's Road	Erieau	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 07, 2022	8
240-2022	141 Sherwood Court	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 07, 2022	8
243-2022	Louisville Tap Drain	Chatham	Chatham - Kent	Granted: June 02, 2022	3
244-2022	3584 Talbot Trail	Wheatley	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 01, 2022	0
245-2022	11007 River Line	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 15, 2022	42
246-2022	33233 Duff Crescent	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 02, 2022	7
247-2022	4 Albert street	Shrewsbury	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 3, 2022	1
248-2022	9 Birmingham Lane	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 7, 2022	4
249-2022	Duke Drain	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 11, 2022	38
250-2022	Ouellette/4th Concession Drain	Chatham	Chatham Kent	Granted: June 16, 2022	10
251-2022	19260 Lakeside Drive	Tilbury	Lakeshore	Granted: June 22, 2022	16
252-2022	6272 Grandview Road			Granted: June 07, 2022	0
253-2022	280 Bayview Avenue	Erieau	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 08, 2022	18
254-2022	22879 Mebourne Road	Melbourne	Southwest Middlesex	Granted: June 16, 2022	9
255-2022	3907 Springer Road	Delaware	Middlesex Centre	Granted: June 16, 2022	9
256-2022	3187 Coltsfoot Drive	Glencoe	Southwest Middlesex	Granted: July 19, 2022	6
257-2022	364 Grand Avenue East	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 08, 2022	30
258-2022	4891 Talbot Trail	Merlin	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 9, 2022	0
259-2022	72 Victoria Street	Thamesville	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 27, 2022	49
260-2022	600/610 Ross Lane	Erieau	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 16, 2022	6
262-2022	Popp Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: June 13, 2022	4
263-2022	RoseBeach Line	Morpeth	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 17, 2022	4
264-2022	11750 Rosebeach Line	Morpeth	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 17, 2022	4
265-2022	6498 Talbot Trail, RR2	Merlin	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 17, 2022	3
266-2022	860 Park Avenue West	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 08, 2022	23
267-2022	862 Park Avenue West	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 08, 2022	23

268-2022	864 Park Avenue West	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 08, 2022	23
269-2022	866 Park Avenue West	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 08, 2022	23
270-2022	126 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
271-2022	127 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
272-2022	130 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
273-2022	131 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
274-2022	134 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
275-2022	135 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
276-2022	138 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
277-2022	139 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
278-2022	142 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
279-2022	143 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
280-2022	146 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
281-2022	147 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
282-2022	150 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
283-2022	151 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
284-2022	154 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
285-2022	155 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
286-2022	158 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
287-2022	159 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
288-2022	162 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
289-2022	163 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
290-2022	166 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
291-2022	167 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
292-2022	170 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
293-2022	171 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
294-2022	174 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
295-2022	175 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
296-2022	178 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
297-2022	179 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
298-2022	183 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
299-2022	187 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
300-2022	191 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	30
301-2022	195 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	29
302-2022	199 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	29
303-2022	90 Bristol	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 14, 2022	0
304-2022	Malcon Blue Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: June15, 2022	1
305-2022	Burke Line	Harwich	Chatham Kent	Granted: June15, 2022	1
306-2022	Hendry Drain	Caradoc	Strathroy-Caradoc	Granted: June15, 2022	1
307-2022	74 Dundee Drive	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 08, 2022	23
308-2022	75 Dundee Drive	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 08, 2022	23
309-2022	20882 Charring Cross Road	Raleigh	Chatham Kent	Granted: June 22, 2022	6
310-2022	Eddie Drain	Ekfrid	Southwest Middlesex	Granted: June 22, 2022	0
311-2022	Newbiggen Creek/Mikkelsen Drain	Ekfrid	Southwest Middlesex	Granted: June 22, 2022	0

312-2022	Devlin Mc-Taggart Drain	Ekfrid	Southwest Middlesex	Granted: June 22, 2022	0
313-2022	20262 Erieau Road	Blenheim	Chatham-kent	Granted: July 06, 2022	8
314-2022	363 Island Crescent	Tilbury	Lakeshore	Granted: July 14, 2022	24
316-2022	Duke Drain	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 08, 2022	21
317-2022	McCaffrey Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: June 22, 2022	1
318-2022	13153 Longwoods Road	Thamesville	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 23, 2022	0
319-2022	Lot 8 North Adelaide Street	Blenheim	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 23, 2022	0
320-2022	12 Sienna Court	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	20
321-2022	19 Judith Place	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	17
322-2022	10 Albert Street	Shrewsbury	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 27, 2022	0
325-2022	90 Kendall Street	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 28, 2022	31
326-2022	16 Judith Place	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	16
327-2022	400 Colbourne Street	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 28, 2022	0
328-2022	201 Colbourne Street	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: June 28, 2022	0
330-2022	McCann-McWilliam Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: July 07, 2022	8
331-2022	C. McCallum Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: July 07, 2022	8
333-2022	Huff Drain-Wecker Culvert	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 07, 2022	31
334-2022	106 Tuscany Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 08, 2022	4
336-2022	9572 Pioneer Line	Chatham	Chatham-kent	Granted: July 14, 2022	9
337-2022	Duquette Drain	Tilbury North	Lakeshore	Granted: July 06, 2022	0
338-2022	Desimpel Drain	Tilbury North	Lakeshore	Granted: July 06, 2022	0
339-2022	Gregory Dr E & Prince Albert Rd (HWY 30)	Chatham	Chatham	Granted: July 07, 2022	1
340-2022	McNaughton Ave E & Prince Albert Rd (HWY 30)	Chatham	Chatham	Granted: July 07, 2022	1
341-2022	Thames River below SASS Road	Chatham	Chatham	Granted: July 07, 2022	1
342-2022	Sass rd (HWY 14) & Park Ave E	Chatham	Chatham	Granted: July 07, 2022	1
343-2022	230 Canal Road	Tilbury	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 06, 2022	0
344-2022	25 William Street	Shrewsbury	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 08, 2022	0
345-2022	106 London Road	Thamesville	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 11, 2022	0
347-2022	Cartmill Drain	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 12, 2022	0
348-2022	Ingram and West Drain	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 12, 2022	0
350-2022	Burke Brien Drain	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 13, 2022	0
353-2022	McKellar #1 Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: July 18 2022	0
354-2022	13432 McLarty Line over Fields Creeks Drain	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 25, 2022	4
360-2022	Bear Line Road	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 28, 2022	1
361-2022	Burchiel Deshaw Drain	Orford	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 27, 2022	0
363-2022	1310 Vidler Ave	Erieau	Chatham-Kent	Granted: July 29, 2022	0

10.4) Conservation Area Lands

10.4.1) Conservation Area Visitation / Camping Stats, June 1 - July 31, 2022

Longwoods Road Conservation Area – 2895 people (1,242 June 1 – July 31 2021) (Includes two people per pay & display permit (transaction) Pay and Display Permits – 424 vehicles (521 vehicles June 1 – July 31 2021)

E.M. Warwick Conservation Area – 888 people (150 June 1 – July 31 2021)

Big Bend Conservation Area – 1497 people (1,125 June 1 – July 31 2021)

C.M. Wilson Conservation Area – 9901 people (7,944 June 1 – July 31 2021) (Includes two people per pay & display permit (transaction) Pay and Display Permits – 232 vehicles (265 June 1 – July 31 2021)

2022 Parking Passes – 41 sold (66 sold June 1 – July 31 2021)

10.4.2) Conservation Areas

Longwoods Road Conservation Area

Staff have been busy with events and bookings at this property. With weekend rentals, educational classes and lots of interest for future events. Staff have been preparing for tenants of the “Burwell House” to vacate, while renovating the other “Livermore House”.

Staff create new tenant parking area at
“Livermore House”



The Electrical Safety Authority (ESA) has ordered LTVCA to raised up certain hydro posts. AV Utility has been contracted and work has commenced to bring LTVCA back into compliance with Hydro One.

The Canada Revitalization Grant that was approved has begun, with RFP being posted and reviewed by engineers. Plans are underway and set to start this exciting project this upcoming fall.

Sharon Creek

Staff organized the third “Friends of Sharon Creek” meeting on July 6th. A good turn out and general interest in improving the property and assisting staff with the vision of how the Conservation Area is managed. Already members have been actively pursuing opportunities, with potential partnerships with local contractors, artists (for new logo), and putting together a “Terms of Reference” for the group.

Our current Mackay Pay Phone app at Sharon Creek is in the midst of changing to Passport Parking Canada. This new platform will be available general public to pay \$5/day to utilize the property. London Canoe Club continues to provide a presence and offer their own programming. New signage to be installed over the next few weeks.

Big Bend

This season we have 9 Seasonal campers at Big Bend CA and is open for transient campers. New hydro was added to the storage barn to allow for two more seasonal sites. Through our Species at Risk program, new signage was installed at the boat launch to the Thames River.



Musician-Dan Knight performs at Big Bend CA, free concert for campers and general public

Through our Species at Risk program, new signage was installed at the boat launch to the Thames River.



Big "O"

The newly acquired 3 acres on the west side was planted in Tall Grass Prairie in 2021, and is now about to bloom. Staff cut in the new trail to access this adjacent area, and new signage will be installed shortly.

Big "O" CA Tall Grass Prairie now in full bloom, this new addition was planted in 2021 on donated adjacent land.



Skakel - classified as a Nature Reserve, this 50-acre property was donated with the intent to naturally restore this farm land. As such a new 5-acre wetland cell was excavated early this summer and will create a nice addition to the property and surrounding area of East Chatham-Kent.



Through grant partnerships like Ducks Unlimited Canada, Canada Nature Fund and many others, LTVCA acquires funds to create these new features.

C.M. Wilson

Over 65 Seasonal Campers this season, which provides a good revenue stream for our Western District properties. As such, we were able to provide entertainment and other Conservation Area improvements.

Musicians “Deep Southwest” play for C.M. Wilson campers.



Diversion Channel

Regular maintenance of the channel has been happening on a weekly basis, which includes: mowing, brush saw, herbicide application and contracted brushing of woody stems like: Staghorn Sumac, Willow, Manitoba maple and other species that are undesirable and could impede flows.



Mancel Excavating was contracted to brush Indian Creek Rd to the Park Ave. section of the LTVCA Diversion Channel.

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

10.5) Conservation Services

10.5.1) General Update

In the eastern district, project recruitment is well underway, and significant assessment and enhancement of past habitat creation projects has taken place.

All **10 of the Wood Duck nesting boxes** made in association with high school woodshop students have been delivered to completed wetland projects as a way for landowners to enhance their new habitats further. Of the 29 Eastern Bluebird nesting boxes, **23 were given out to landowners** who worked with us on establishing prairie and/or tree planting projects, with the remaining six reserved to be deployed around habitat enhancement projects in LTVCA conservation areas.

Across the watershed, **76 tree planting projects were due to be assessed for survival**: 20 in their first year (planted 2022), 34 in their second year (planted 2021), and 22 in their fifth year (planted 2018). Average survival was 75% among first year sites, 69% among second year sites, and 50% among fifth year sites. The most common causes of losses were deer browse, dry summers, and neighbors spraying herbicide beyond their own property boundaries. Five sites were totally lost (two planted in 2021, and three in 2018): two due to drought, two due to tenant farmers spraying and tilling trees to have more planting space, and one due to unsatisfied landowner returning project area to cropland. Two projects, both planted in 2021, could not be assessed because the landowners could not be contacted.

We are currently looking over **18 potential new projects in the eastern district**, with plans to recruit more throughout the summer and fall. In association with Elgin Stewardship, Elgin Clean Water, and ALUS Middlesex, we have **8 sites preparing to undergo wetland projects**. Ten landowners have also expressed an interest in undertaking stewardship projects in 2023 so far, and we are in the process of working with them to determine how best to accomplish their goals. Currently, nine of these projects consist of **4,850 trees, 3 wetlands** (two with two cells, for a total of five cells across the three projects), and **4.5 acres of tallgrass prairie**, with one project site still to be visited in early August.

To build community relations and recruit more stewardship projects, **9 outreach efforts are underway**. In association with ALUS Middlesex and ALUS Elgin, we have registered for a booth at one agricultural fair in Melbourne, and are undergoing the registration process for four more in Shedden, Glencoe, Rodney, and Wallacetown. We are also pursuing speaking opportunities with three horticultural societies in Glencoe, Dutton, and West Lorne, as well as the West Elgin Nature Club.

ALUS Middlesex

After a busy planting season that saw **over 150 new acres established**, ALUS Middlesex has been in full reporting and planning mode. Interim reports were submitted to ALUS Canada, measuring the community's impact and progress to date. ALUS Middlesex is on track with all of the funding guidelines and anticipates **surpassing their target of 210 new acres for 2022**. Moving into late-summer and fall, ALUS Middlesex has **another six wetland projects to complete and 2 prairie plantings**.

ALUS Project Monitoring Specialist

With funding from ECO Canada, ALUS Elgin and Middlesex were able to hire a Project Monitoring Specialist full-time, on contract until the end of the year. The specialist is responsible for visiting established ALUS sites in Elgin and Middlesex, completing the annual project monitoring and verification while checking-in with the landowner. The specialist position will also be updating the GIS files for projects and capturing real-time aerial photography using a UAV of projects.

Growing Biodiversity Conference



ALUS Elgin and Middlesex have teamed up to host the Growing Biodiversity Conference, to be held on August 9th at an ALUS Elgin participant farm. The conference will bring researchers, environmental organizations, and landowners together to create networks and share knowledge about habitat restoration. Speakers from ALUS Canada, Birds Canada, Carolinian Canada, and World Wildlife Fund will be taking the stage to share the latest trends in local biodiversity and showcase the impacts of farmer-led stewardship projects that are safeguarding wildlife, ecosystems, and important habitats.

ALUS Elgin

ALUS Elgin recently completed the ALUS Canada interim reports, sending data and information back to the national team to be passed onto funders. Feedback regarding results has been positive – ALUS Elgin is expected to **surpass acre targets with over 190 acres established** so far and is in line to receive further funding to support the program.

During national pollinator week, ALUS Elgin worked with Éva Circé-Côté French Immersion Public School to complete a planting at Wildflowers Farm. Grade 8 students, and their kindergarten buddies, learned about native pollinators and worked to plant **1000 native plugs to restore the tall grass prairie** ecosystem; providing valuable habitat for pollinators and other species. The event was a great success, with the story being **featured on CTV News**.



The expanding reach of the program, supported by available funds, has allowed for an increase in ALUS Elgin's internal capacity. This month, ALUS Elgin hired a Program Assistant which will be most helpful in the delivery of the growing program.

ALUS Chatham-Kent

Mike Shore has decided to move on to other interests so ALUS CK duties have fallen to the Conservation Services Coordinator. The position has been posted and hopes are a new coordinator will be chosen by the end of September.

Significant funds through ALUS are available this fall to increase our capacity within the organization as well as increased funding to create new wetlands or enhance existing along with any invasive control required for current ALUS project landowners.

Currently **17 projects** are being worked on for ALUS CK totalling **60 new acres**.

Ducks Unlimited and Imagine McGregor

The urban stewardship program is well underway, with several successful events having occurred in the past months and many more planned for late summer and fall.

Students from Ursuline College Chatham got their hands dirty with two volunteer events in June: planting **77 trees** along Queen's line and **removing invasive trees** from the **1-acre tallgrass prairie** in the Maple Leaf Cemetery. The students were also engaged through a nature walk in the cemetery along McGregor Creek where they picked up litter and practised their flora ID skills. The invasive removal event was a huge success, with coverage from two local papers (**see article* below**) as well as the school board.

Children from the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Chatham were also engaged in the program through an activity night at C.M. Wilson Conservation Area. **25 mentors and mentees** came out for a meal and a "nature scavenger hunt," which helped to cultivate an appreciation for the environment.



Staff & participants from Big Brothers Big Sisters nature appreciation event.

Several additional planting events were held earlier this summer, including the planting of a new pollinator garden at the water treatment facility by **10 volunteers** from Enbridge. The LTVCA also teamed up with the municipality to plant **25 trees & shrubs and 1600 wildflowers** along the McGregor Creek in Tecumseh Park. As well, a small group of staff and volunteers planted just over **500 pollinator plugs and trees** surrounding the newly built wetland at the Walter Devereux

Conservation Area. A grant for TD Tree Days was just approved, which will result in the planting of approximately **100 native trees and shrubs** within urban greenspaces in Chatham this coming fall.



Staff and volunteers at Enbridge “Fueling Futures” pollinator garden planting event.

The 2nd annual Imagine McGregor rain barrel sale was held at the end of June; **35 rain barrels** were sold, raising just under **\$400** for the program. “Greening your Grounds” booklets were given out alongside the barrels to encourage further urban stewardship initiatives.

The Imagine McGregor program was showcased at **three outreach events**: Discover Blenheim, Sons of Kent Brewfest, and Bridgerama. Staff from the LTVCA manned booths at each of these events and engaged the public with literature about our programs as well as giveaways. Between the three events, **over 200 people were connected with**. At Brewfest, the LTVCA was the charity organization, bringing in over **\$200** from personal donations with additional proceeds coming in from beverage sales. More recognition for the program was achieved through a radio morning show and ad campaign, which featured the importance of urban stewardship.



Staff & public at Discover Blenheim & Brewfest outreach events.

Through Ducks Unlimited, **two pair-ponds** have been implemented on rural landowner’s properties in the Essex region, with an additional **six cells** anticipated to be created later this summer in both Essex and Chatham-Kent.

*Students muscle out invasive species

By **Pam Wright**

June 22, 2022



Owen Kalp, Bryce Bear and Carson Dietrich help pile up white mulberry trees being removed from the banks of McGregor Creek. The aggressive tree is an invasive species that competes with the native red mulberry tree. The Ursuline College Chatham students were part of a larger group from the school helping to revitalize the McGregor's Creek watershed.

By Pam Wright

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Last week's sticky summer weather was no match for a group of eco-warriors from Ursuline College Chatham.

A group of Grade 11 and 12 biology and environmental science students headed out to Maple Leaf Cemetery to lend some 90 pairs of hands to the Imagine McGregor project.

"It's satisfying," said student Bryce Bear as he hacked away at some white mulberry trees growing profusely along the creek at the edge of the cemetery.

"Cutting these down is good therapy," Bear added.

Along with working to eradicate invasive species, activities led by the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority (LTVCA) included cleaning up garbage from the waterway and tree and plant identification.

LTVCA wetland and urban stewardship technician Alyssa Broeders said the volunteer help is much appreciated to further the goals of the Imagine McGregor project.

Broeders said it's hard to quantify, but she estimated students worked to help clear invasive species from between a half acre to an acre of land.

Getting rid of the invasive white mulberry is part of the job, Broeders said, adding the trees aren't cut down.

Instead they're "girdled," she said, by removing a ring of bark thereby damaging the plant's water transport system.

Students, led by teachers Jordan King, Chantal Lucarelli and Adam McCabe also cleaned up refuse from along the creek bed and participated in a tree and plant identification competition.

UCC students have been busy pitching in on other projects. Recently, environmental science students led by King planted 73 American sycamore trees on Queen's Line near Drake Road.

2nd Annual Cultivating Conservation Tour – September 8th

The second annual Cultivating Conservation Tour will be taking place on Thursday, September 8th 2022. The goal of this interactive tour is to increase awareness regarding regional environmental issues and to provide examples of solutions that can and have been implemented by local residents. The event targets both rural and urban landowners in Chatham-Kent. The self-directed tour will be held from 2 pm-5 pm. The tour will conclude with a social gathering, meal and a guest speaker at the Red Barn Brewery Company from 5:30-8:00 pm.

The sites will showcase examples of conservation projects such as:

- Tree Plantings
- Native Pollinator Plantings
- Wetland Habitat Restoration
- Donated Conservation Lands
- Agricultural Water Quality Improvement Initiatives

To find out more about the sites and to register visit the Eventbrite webpage:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/cultivating-conservation-tour-tickets-380594587657>

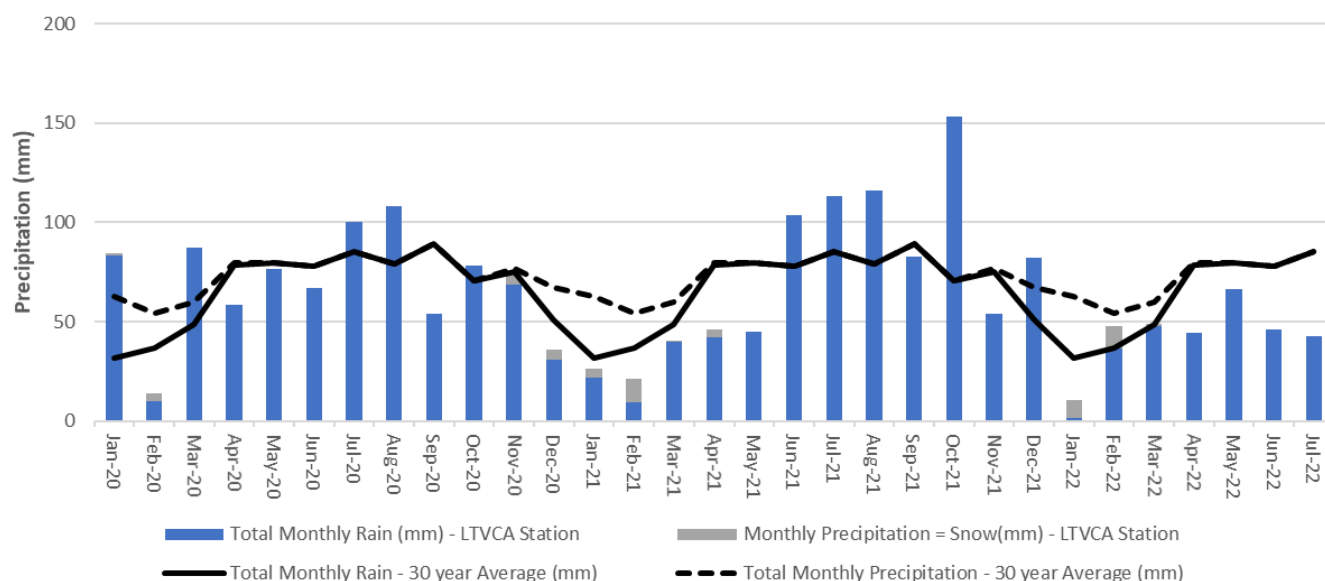
10.5.2) Phosphorus Reduction Initiatives

On-Farm Applied Research & Monitoring (ONFARM) Program

From June to July of 2022, LTVCA project staff continued to collect water quality and quantity data in the Jeannettes Creek ONFARM study subwatershed. Approximately 89mm of precipitation was recorded at the Merlin edge of field sites during the period.



LTVCA Merlin Station Measured Precipitation (2020-2022) Compared to 30 Year Historical Average



The ONFARM Jeannettes Creek study subwatershed has observed extremely low levels of precipitation during 2022, which has significantly reduced the occurrence of flow events in the subwatershed. From January-July the LTVCA measured 307mm of precipitation at the Merlin Edge-of-Field research sites, this 192mm lower than the 30-year average for the region during this period (499mm). As such, the LTVCA has only observed 2 significant flow events during 2022 in the subwatershed and to date no significant Spring or Summer flow events. The low moisture conditions are also leading to crop stress in the region which could ultimately reduce yields. All events that have occurred have been sampled and base flow sampling continued at all sites throughout this period.



LTVCA project staff have taken advantage of reduced water sampling demand and have made considerable progress installing and performing maintenance on instrumentation at monitoring stations in the subwatershed. Furthermore, staff have completed a significant amount of the data management and nutrient load calculation tasks that will inform the configuration of the “Integrated Modelling for Watershed Evaluation of BMPs” (IMWEBS) subwatershed model that is being developed for the subwatershed by Dr. Wanhong Yang from the University of Guelph. This data management and analysis work will also be used to inform the drafting of a technical results report that will be release during February of 2023.

The current ONFARM funding agreement is set to expire during February of 2023.

To learn more about the LTVCA's involvement in this initiative, watch the below YouTube video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TON9EreMDXM>

This program is funded by the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a five-year federal-provincial-territorial initiative. ONFARM was developed by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) and delivered by the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA) with support from various organizations including Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, five Conservation Authorities and The Soil Resource Group. The current funding agreement for the program concludes during February of 2023.

Living Lab Ontario Summer Event Series

During the month of August and September a number of Living Lab Ontario field days are being hosted across the Lake Erie Basin to share results and information from the farmer lead research trails. All of these farm trails are assessing if different innovative cropping practices can improve soil health, this involves reduced tillage and continuous-no-till cover crop systems. Below is a list of the events and a link to the Eventbrite registration page:

1. August 17th: No-till Organic Soybeans and Alfalfa-Fueled Corn – Wallenstein
2. August 22nd: Economics of Soil Health – Tillsonburg
3. August 29th: No-till Potatoes Field Day – St. Thomas
4. August 30th: Perennial Cover Crop Field Day – Dresden
5. September 8th: Rotational Grazing in Field Crops - Crediton
6. September 9th: Making a Conservation Farming System Work – Kingsville

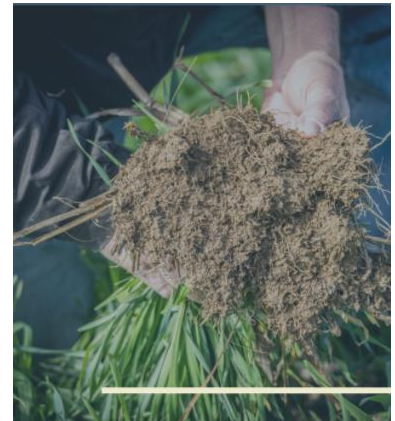
LTVCA staff will be assisting the Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA) with planning and promoting the “Making a Conservation Farming System Work” field day in Kingsville. Recent water quality results from the ONFARM Jeannettes Creek Edge-of-Field sites will be shared at the event.

<https://bit.ly/3Qo9RgC>

LTVCA: Soil Health Program 2022 – Budget Allocated!

The 2022 LTVCA Soil Health Program budget has been fully allocated to 2022 cover crop projects. The objective of the program is to provide financial support to farmers who are planting cover crops to sequester carbon, improve soil health, and to reduce agriculturally sourced phosphorus loads. The program offers farmers \$15.00/acre to plant cover crops in the LTVCA watershed.

If all projects proceed as planned 9,300 acres of cover crops will be planted by 72 farm businesses. This would equate to a total financial contribution \$140,000.00. With Winter Wheat harvest concluding in July, many plantings have started to occur. The LTVCA will begin processing claims as they are received. The claim deadline is December 16th of 2022.



This project is undertaken with the financial support of the Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund, a Government of Canada Department of Environment and Climate Change program, in partnership with Conservation Ontario. The LTVCA has been approved for \$423,000.00 in funding to administer the program from 2022-2024. The majority of the funding will be allocated to provide incentives to farm businesses to plant cover crops during 2022 and 2023. The LTVCA will also receive funds to offset the cost of administering the program.

10.5.3) Aquatic Species at Risk (SAR)

Nine paired data loggers, measuring temperature and light conditions for fish and mussel SAR, have been deployed at sites in the lower Thames River and Baptiste Creek. This continues work initiated in 2021. Seining surveys for the threatened Eastern Sand Darter have been initiated in the Thames River at Big Bend, where six individuals were found, and will continue at other locations in the river. Environmental DNA (eDNA) sampling will occur at this and other sites to compare methodologies. Some eDNA surveys will be targeted to the detection of Gravel Chub, a fish species believed to be extirpated from Canada. Timed mussel surveys will also occur at these sites to compare traditional methodologies against eDNA detection results. Funding for this work has been provided by Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Canada Nature Fund for Aquatic Species at Risk.

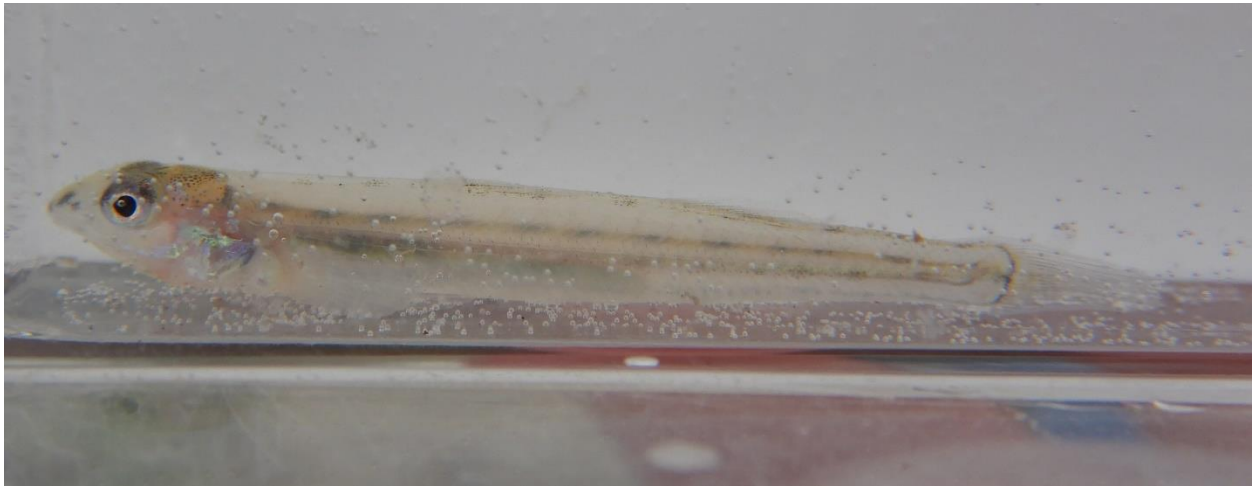


Figure 1: Threatened Eastern Sand Darters were captured in seining samples at Big Bend.

10.5.4) Bioacoustic Monitoring of Bat and Bird Species at Risk



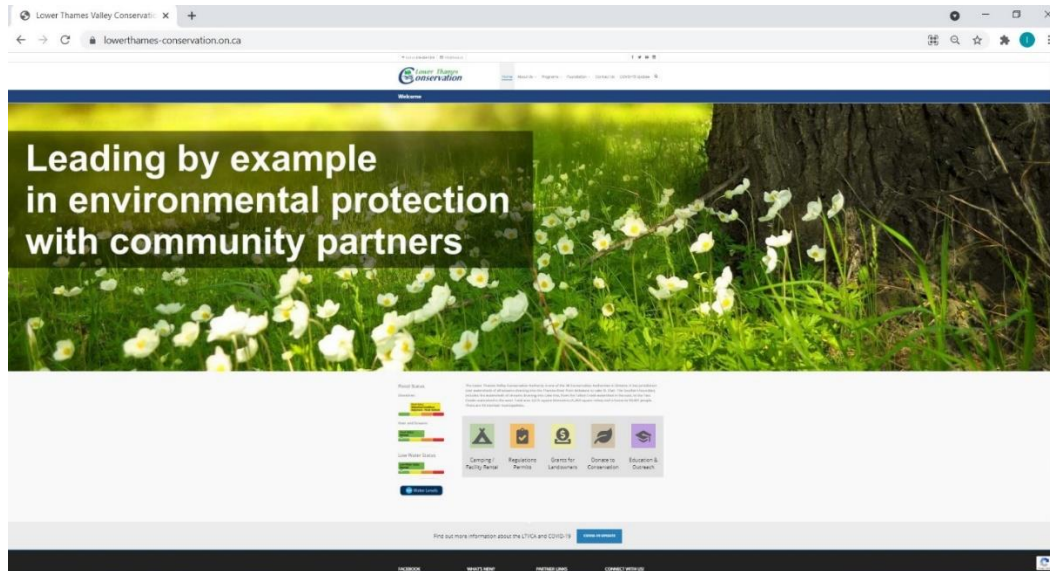
Figure 2: A Mini Song Meter installed at the Mosa Forest Conservation Area to detect the sounds of breeding bird and amphibians.

Acoustic monitoring of amphibians and birds during their respective breeding seasons in Ashton Forest and Mosa Forest Conservation Areas using mini song meters is now complete. The acoustic files are now being processed to determine species presence. Ultrasonic detection of bats using Anabat Swift units continues. The first round of Ecological Land Classification has been completed for these properties to identify habitats and species present. Funding was generously provided by Environment and Climate Change Canada's Habitat Stewardship Program.

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.



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. Offices at Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority are returning to a more normal work environment. Staff are working from their respective offices at this time.

10.6.2) Social Media

Analytics as at July 26, 2022 - Followers continue to increase on our social media platforms. Daily posts on LTVCA's social media platforms were issued following the June 16, 2022 meeting of the Board of Directors. (**Facebook** – 3,059 followers for an increase of 27 new followers; **Twitter** – 1,253 followers for an increase of 9 new followers; **Instagram** – 1013 followers for an increase of 25 new followers, **YouTube** - 105 subscribers for an increase of 3 new subscribers.) Posts focus on the LTVCA's ongoing programs and services, and follow environmental issues across our watershed.

The **Ska-Nah-Doht Village's Facebook** page currently has 2,718 Followers for an increase of 16. Followers and 2,515 page Likes and in increase of 12 Likes. The **Instagram page for the Village** has 372 Followers for an increase of 7 new Followers.

Social media posts circulate 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 continue to reinforce the importance of any current COVID-19 protocols, removal of garbage and pet waste, and have encouraged visitors to support our conservation areas through payment of parking fees and the purchase of 2022 parking passes.

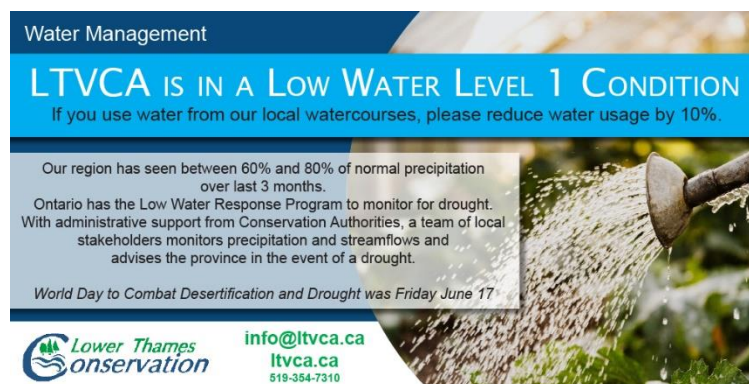
In addition to the daily departmental posts, there were posts and media releases created on our social media and website for other major events associated with the LTVCA over the past couple of months (June 4 – August 9):

- RFP Architectural and Engineering Services for Resource Centre expansion (Indigenous Community Education Centre)
- McKinlay Memorial Forest Dedication Service at Merlin Conservation Area
- Chatham Planting Events
- CBC article about presence of rare species of fish and mollusks living in the Thames River near the heart of London has temporarily halted a \$23-million bridge project
- Chatham Voice article about Grade 11 and 12 biology and environmental science students helping at Maple Leaf Cemetery to lend help to the Imagine McGregor project
- Week long Healthy Hikes campaign with Conservation Ontario's posts
- Service Disruption posts for any conservation area closures
- Conservation Area opening schedules
- Rental openings at E.M. Warwick Conservation Area
- Special LTVCA event postings
- Youtube video of machine planting by LTVCA
- New ONFarm Climate Action Fund

Departmental Social Media Post Messages – June 4 – August 9, 2022

• **Water Management Mondays**

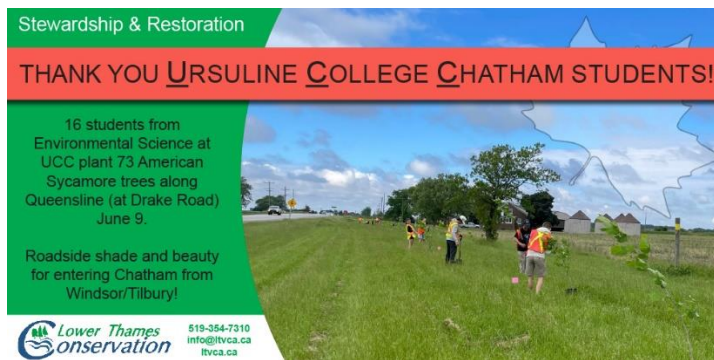
- *June 6 – It's Canadian Environment Week*
- *June 13 – Sharon Creek Reservoir 53rd Anniversary*
- *June 20 – LTVCA is in a Low Water Level 1 Condition*
- *June 27 – LTVCA does water quality monitoring at 28 sites*
- *July 4 – Slope Failures – causes, LTVCA regulates development*
- *July 11 – Canoe the Lower Thames*
- *July 18 – Questions About Dredging?*
- *July 25 – World Drowning Prevention Day*
- *Aug 1 – Water Quality – Imagine what our lives would be like without clean water.*
- *Aug 8 – Flooding is a Natural Process*



• **Stewardship Tuesdays**

- *June 7 – As the Sun Sets on Our Tree Planting Season 72,000 trees planted*
- *June 14 – Thank You Enbridge for planting 500 pollinator plugs*
- *June 21 – Hiding somewhere is a prairie – can you see it?*
- *June 28 – ALUS Elgin Planting Event celebrates pollinator week!*
- *July 5 – Thank You Ursuline College Chatham Students – 73 sycamores planted*
- *July 12 – LTVCA is the charity for 'Funkfest' proceeds to restore bank of McGregor Creek*
- *July 19 – Sons of Kent Brewfest outreach Event a Big Success!*
- *July 26 – Growing Biodiversity – ALUS Community Conference*

- *Aug 2 – Planted 500+ prairie plugs at the Walter Devereux Conservation Area!*
- *Aug 9 - Stewardship Interest Expressed at Chatham's 'Bridgerama'!*



- **Conservation Area Wednesdays**

- *June 8 – Conservation Ontario's New Online Visitors; Guide and Map*
- *June 15 – Visit Lighthouse Conservation Area*
- *June 22 – On-leash...On-trails...Why?*
- *June 29 - Free 'Concert on the Thames' - Big Bend Conservation Area*
- *July 6 – Music in the Park presents 'Deep Southwest' at C.M. Wilson CA*
- *July 13 – Newly Created Wetlands coming to 2 Conservation Areas*
- *July 20 – Did You Miss Last Night's 'Twilight Tuesday'?*
- *July 27 – Free 'Concert on the Thames' – Big Bend Conservation Area (repost)*
- *Aug 3 - 'Walter Devereux' - Have you explored this hidden gem of a conservation area?*



- **Outreach and Education Thursdays**

- *June 9 – Intro to Bird Watching Event*
- *June 16 – Thanks for presenting 'Birding 101' Christina Carter*
- *June 23 – We have programming and events planned this summer at Longwoods!*
- *June 30 – Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum Open Daily*
- *July 7 – 'Sky Woman' – education program available to groups this summer*
- *July 14 – Forest Connection Walk at Longwoods Road Conservation Area*
- *July 21 – Take a Morning Hike! 2 Guided Walks with ALUS*
- *July 28 – Summer Interpretation - Canada Summer Jobs Youth at Longwoods*
- *Aug 4 - Twilight Tuesdays Continue -Join us Tuesday evenings through August 23*



- **Phosphorus / Water Quality Fridays**

- June 10 – No flow events experienced even with periods of rain this week
- June 17 – We do periodic Roadside Surveys to view tillage practices
- June 24 – Living Labs – Robotic Row Mow Field Day Demo
- July 1 – No-Till Garlic Field Day – Living Labs
- July 8 – June was a dry month in LTVCA – monitoring station in Merlin
- July 15 – Example of water samples taken at Jeannettes Creek pump schemes
- July 22 – Curious about 2022 Rainfall Numbers?
- July 29 – Launch of the Sept. 8 Cultivating Conservation Tour
- Aug 5 - A Sneak Peak from the Sept. 8 Cultivating Conservation Tour – Myslik CA



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 Week Long "Step Into Nature" Campaign for June and July**
- **sharing of neighbouring Conservation Authorities' information** – posts of interest
- **sharing of municipal public health information** – CK Public Health, London Middlesex Health, St. Thomas Elgin Health, Windsor

10.6.3) Events

Public Events Held at Longwoods Road Conservation Area and Ska-Nah-Doht Village to August 9, 2022

- Artifact Day July 10
- Twilight Tuesday July 12 –Tour of Ska-Nah-Doht Village
- Twilight Tuesday July 19 – An Evening of Nature Art, Painting and Woodland Discovery
- Forest Connection Walk July 24
- Twilight Tuesday July 26 – Dakota Ireland Leads Activity from iSTEAM Program
- Twilight Tuesday August 2 – John and Jan Everett and Their Turtle Story ‘Never Give Up’
- Twilight Tuesday August 9 –Tour of Ska-Nah-Doht Village

Offsite Public Events Arranged by Outreach and Education Staff to August 9th, 2022

- Guided Hike at E.M. Warwick Conservation Area Monday, July 25 led by Jumanah Khan – ALUS Elgin
- Guided Hike at Sharon Creek Conservation Area Wednesday, July 27 led by Peter Moddle – ALUS Middlesex

10.6.4) Media Releases Issued June 4 - August 9

- Field Trips Running Full Steam Ahead! Outdoor Education Programming Bustling Once Again at Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Longwoods Road Conservation Area! (May 31, 2022)

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

Teachers and community groups have begun to schedule education programs for the fall and spring. We have high hopes that our programming schedule will be closer to a pre-pandemic level this year, though bussing remains an issue.

Prior to the pandemic the education team was able to run up to 3 programs at a time but staffing levels have changed and are currently being assessed.

The partnership with Nshwaasnangong Child Care & Family Centre and Middlesex EarlyON continues to allow us to reach further members of our community. Parking fees are paid by one of our partners in order to help compensate for staff time. These opportunities have served to help us form relationships with both organizations, which will be invaluable as we assess our programming and future events.

The following is a confirmed list of events and workshops for the 2022 summer/fall season:

- Intro to Bird Watching, June 15
- Artifact Day, July 10
- Twilight Tuesdays, July 12 – August 23
- Forest Therapy Walks, July 24, August 28, October 29
- Guided Walk with ALUS Elgin, July 25 at E. M. Warwick Conservation Area
- Guided Walk with ALUS Middlesex July 27 at Sharon Creek Conservation Area
- Rotary Discovery Tour (participating site), October 2

A water safety program, in partnership with the London Canoe Club is in development for the late summer or early fall, as well as a possible event at C. M. Wilson Conservation Area for the fall. Further programming opportunities throughout the LTVCA watershed are being explored for the remainder of the year.

Three youth positions have joined the Communications, Outreach, and Education Department for the summer. Each position is 8 weeks in length. They are supporting programming, interpretation, and event delivery June through August. Funding is through a Canada Summer Jobs grant.

At this time, the Museum is generally open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays as well, given staff availability. Due to a scheduled hydro outage the Museum was closed Monday – Friday, July 18-22, 2022, and was closed for an Education Team outing on Wednesday, July 27, 2022.

Over the next few months Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum will be working towards the revitalization of the Heritage Log Cabins. Their use and access were both points of consideration brought up in the 2017 Vision Project undertaken at Longwoods Road Conservation Area. Further details will be provided as they become available.

Pop-Up Exhibits continue to travel throughout the watershed – they will be heading to Essex and Chatham-Kent this fall.

The Village Advisory Committee has begun utilizing a hybrid model for its meeting. Advisory Committee members are now able to attend meetings either on site or via zoom.

10.6.6) Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation

The Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation (LTVCF) is a not-for-profit, federally registered charity, governed by a volunteer Board of six Directors. The Executive – President Dan McKillop, Vice-president Ken Brooks and Secretary-Treasurer Don Pearson have been re-elected for 2022 at their AGM on May 18, 2022.

The LTVCF works in partnership with the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority, to raise funds towards the wise management of our renewable natural resources. Since 1995, the Foundation has raised approximately \$1M for natural and cultural heritage conservation.

A committee formed to develop a fund-raising strategy for the Indigenous Education Centre addition. Jena Downen-Dempsey – Foundation Director, Don Pearson – Foundation Director, Mark Peacock - LTVCA CAO, Bonnie Carey – LTVCA Manager Communications, Outreach and Education (and Foundation volunteer administrator) and Alison Klages – Ska-Nah-Doht Museum Curator are on the fund-raising committee. This Committee has met June 15th, 29th, and July 17th, with an upcoming meeting scheduled for August 17th.

Next meeting of the Foundation Board of Directors is September 21, 2022.



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

4. Strengthen and Increase Collaboration with Community Stakeholders
5. Increase the Awareness of the Value of Good Watershed Stewardship

10.7) Executive Committee Minutes June 8, 2022

LOWER THAMES VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2022

A meeting of the Conservation Authority's Executive Committee was held on Wednesday, June 8, 2022 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 & S. Emons.

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

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. Of particular importance on this day to recognize the Truth and Reconciliation for First Nations.

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-2022-14 C. Cowell – P. Tiessen

Moved that the Agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

4. Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

None declared.

5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – February 9, 2022

E-2022-15 R. Leatham – L. McKinlay

Moved that the Executive Committee meeting minutes of February 9, 2022 be approved.

CARRIED

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

E-2022-16 C. Cowell – P. Tiessen

Moved that

CARRIED

7. New Business

Motion to sit as a Hearing Board

E-2022-17 C. Cowell – L. McKinlay

Moved that the Executive Committee sit as the Authority's Hearing Board.

CARRIED

a. **Hearing #1 – LTVCA AppNo: #643-2021 – 5269, 5273, 5279, and 5285 Tecumseh Line, Chatham-Kent**

The Chair introduced the Hearing Board members and the CAO to the applicant. The applicant was in attendance for the hearing. Jason Homewood, Water Resources and Regulations Technician provided the Hearing Board with the staff report which was previously provided to the applicant and to the Executive Committee. A power point presentation was also given regarding this application as it relates to the Thames River and the CA Regulations. The applicant was provided an opportunity to be heard.

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

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

E-2022-18 P. Tiessen –

Moved that the Hearing Board meet 'in camera'.

CARRIED

E-2022-19 –

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

CARRIED

Resolution Number E-2022-20

The Chair advised the Committee that LTVCA staff will provide the applicant the Hearing Board's decision at a later date.

b. Hearing #2 – LTVCA AppNo: #073-2022 – 20929 Pickerel Road, Wheatley, Chatham-Kent

The Chair introduced the Hearing Board members and the CAO to the applicant. The applicants were in attendance for the hearing. Jason Homewood, Water Resources and Regulations Technician provided the Hearing Board with the staff report which was previously provided to the applicant and to the Executive Committee. A power point presentation was also given regarding this application as it relates to the Lake Erie shoreline and the CA Regulations. The applicants were provided an opportunity to be heard and provided the Hearing Committee with a verbal presentation.

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

The Chair requested that the applicant and Jason Homewood leave the meeting in order that the Hearing Board could meet in camera.

E-2022-21 P. Tiessen – R. Leatham
Moved that the Hearing Board meet 'in camera'.

CARRIED

E-2022-22 –
Moved that the Hearing Board move out of the 'in camera' session.

CARRIED

Resolution Number E-2022-23

The Chair advised the Committee that LTVCA staff will provide the applicant the Hearing Board's decision at a later date.

E-2022-24 –
Moved that the Hearing Board sit as the Executive Committee.

CARRIED

8. Other Business

None noted.

9. Adjournment

E-2022-25 –
Moved that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Trevor Thompson
Chair

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

+



Ska-Nah-Doht Advisory Committee

DRAFT MINUTES

The meeting of the Ska-Nah-Doht Advisory Committee was held in person and remotely at 6:00 P.M. on Thursday, June 23, 2022. The following members were in attendance: B. Bruinink, R. Doane, D. Fallon, G. Bogart, M. Peacock. Also, in attendance: A. Klages, B. Carey and A. Vriends.

1. Minutes of the Last Meeting

SND-2022-12 D. Fallon – R. Doane

Moved that the minutes of the March 17, 2022 meeting be approved.

CARRIED

2. Business for Approval

2.1) Deaccessions - Artifact Case / Repatriation Project

Artifacts from the education collection have been utilized in this project.

SND-2022-13 R. Doane – D. Fallon

Moved to approve artifacts for deaccession.

CARRIED

2.2) Strategic Direction

The draft of the Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum 5 Year Strategic Plan, 2022-2026, was approved by the LTVCA Board of Directors.

SND-2022-14 D. Fallon – R. Doane

Moved that the Ska-Nah-Doht Committee approve the 5 Year Strategic Plan, 2022-2026.

CARRIED

3. Business for Information

3.1) Youth Employment

Three 8 week positions were approved through the Canada Summer Jobs Program.

3.2) Grant Updates

An application was submitted to the Southwest Ontario Tourism Relief Fund to support renovations at the cabins.

Community Museum Operating Grant has opened for 2022 and are due on June 30. This funding normally amounts to \$22,992 towards the operating budget of SND.

3.3) Education Programs

Education programs were fully booked between May and June. Summer and Fall bookings are being taken.

3.4) Events and Workshops

The following is a confirmed list of events and workshops for the 2022 summer season:

- Intro to Bird Watching, June 15
- Artifact Day, July 10
- Twilight Tuesdays, July 12 – August 23
- Forest Therapy Walks, July 28, August 28, October 29

Further programming opportunities throughout the LTVCA watershed are being planned for the remainder of the year.

3.5) Museum Hours

For July and August, the museum will be open 7 days a week, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

3.6) Update on the Indigenous Education Centre - Mark Peacock

Proposed timeline for the project was reviewed. Plans for a possible second addition were outlined.

SND-2022-15 D. Fallon – R. Doane

Moved to receive 3.1 – 3.6 for information.

CARRIED

4. Other Business

4.1) Policy Review

Policies will be updated and provided to the Committee for information during a fall meeting.

SND-2022-16 R. Doane – D. Fallon

Moved that item 4.1 be received for information.

CARRIED

5. Next Meeting Dates

Thursday, September 15 at 6 p.m.

Thursday, November 17 at 6:00 p.m.

6. Adjournment

SND-2022-17 D. Fallon – G. Bogart

Moved that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

B. Bruinink

Chair

10.9) Wheatley Two Creeks Association Meeting Minutes June 2, 2022

WHEATLEY TWO CREEKS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of regular meeting held on June 2nd 2022 at Two Creeks

Attendance: Rick & Forest Taves, Lee & Linda Pearce, Gerry Soulliere, Mike Diesbourg, Roger Dundas, Vicki Haley, Joe Pinsonneault.

Agenda: Moved by Lee Pearce, sec. by Joe Pinsonneault agenda be accepted as outlined (Carried)

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

Memorial Groves: The grass is quite long and will need to be cut soon. We are still waiting to be reimbursed for the grass cutting costs for last year from the L.T.V.C.A.

Prop. & Equip.: Joe has cut some of the trails. The flag for the hill needs to be put up. Rick & Forest painted the new sign put up by the L.T.V.C.A. We have one rental so far in August for the large pavillion. We have received approval for the grant from the ROMNEY wind energy centre.

Concerts: Joe has booked opening acts for the majority of our concerts. Flyers have been distributed to most of the businesses in the area. Bradts will be selling cans only from their truck, we will supply the boxes for the empties. Brian Cobby will once again be supplying the sound equipment for all of our concerts.

Financial Report: Submitted by Roger. Account Balance as of April 30 was \$51,719.93. Account Balance as of May 31 was \$50,955.80. Moved by Roger, sec. by Lee Financial report be accepted as given (Carried)

Correspondence: We received the letter approving us for the grant from the ROMNEY wind energy centre.

Old Business: Business at the CAR BARN catering truck has been going well.

New Business: None

Adjournment: Roger moved for adjournment at 6:40 pm.

10.10) Wheatley Two Creeks Association Meeting Minutes July 7, 2022

WHEATLEY TWO CREEKS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of regular meeting held July 7th 2022 at Two Creeks

Attendance: Roger Dundas, Mike Diesbourg, Lorna Bell, Bob Roth, Adam Gibb, Pauline Sample, Gerry Soulliere, Lee & Linda Pearce, Ken Hatt, Rick & Forest Taves, Bruce & Marj Jackson.

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

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

Memorial Groves: There are a few post spikes that need to be pounded in the ground . The grass has been cut. There is a Kentucky Coffee tree that needs to be planted. Rick will contact Mark Sherman's family about picking out a tree for a post and plaque in memory of Mark.

Prop. & Equip. : A lot of the trails need to be trimmed and widened. Lower Thames has offered us help for this possibly near the end of July. We have received the building permit for the Wedding Chapel, we now need to get quotes in order to start building. Adam Gibb said he will look into us acquiring an old bridge for the culvert on the western trail. We have received approval for the grant from the Chatham Kent Community Fund.

Concerts: The concerts so far have been quite successful. We have sold 16 buttons in the past month. According to the feedback we have been getting it seems that more people would like less rock and more mellower music, something to think about for next year. The South Essex Community Council has asked about the possibility of setting up a counselling booth at our concerts.

Financial Report: Submitted by Roger. Account balance as of May 31 was \$50,955.80. Account balance as of June 30 was \$57,413.91. Move by Roger, sec. by Lee Financial Report be accepted as given. (Carried)

Correspondence: None

Old Business: None

New Business: Bruce thanked us for the fruit basket he received from us.

Adjournment: Rick moved for adjournment at 6:51 pm.

Phil Humphries, secretary.

11. Correspondence

None

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;
- i) 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.
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CARRIED

13. Other Business

14. Adjournment
