

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA

THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 2018

Hamilton Conservation Authority

Vision

HCA works to ensure healthy streams and healthy communities in which human needs are met in balance with the needs of the natural environment, now and in the future.

Mission

To lead in the conservation and sustainable management of our watershed's natural environment.



**Hamilton
Conservation Authority**

Healthy Streams...Healthy Communities!

**Maple Syrup
Westfield Heritage Village**

AGENDA FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, March 1, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** ~ Conley
- 2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**
- 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 4. DELEGATIONS**
- 5. MEMBER BRIEFING**
 - 5.1 Conservation Authorities Act ~ Peck
- 6. APPLICATIONS – Development, Interference with Wetlands, and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses**
 - 6.1 Applications for March 1, 2018 ~ Kenny
- 7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**
 - 7.1 Minutes – February 1, 2018
- 8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**
- 9. PRE-DISTRIBUTED CORRESPONDENCE**
 - 9.1 Letter from Office of the Mayor, City of Hamilton – re Conservation Authority Boundary Review
 - 9.2 Letter from Judy Anderson, on behalf of the Dundas District Lofts Subcommittee – re Traffic and Parking Issues at 397 King Street West, Dundas
 - 9.3 Letter from the Dundas/Ancaster Valley Bowhunters Association – re Deer Harvest in Dundas Valley Conservation Area
- 10. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE**

11.REPORTS

- 11.1 Budget & Administration Committee (Minutes – February 15, 2018) ~ Fielding
- 11.2 Conservation Advisory Board (Minutes – February 8, 2018) ~ Topalovic
- 11.3 Foundation Chairman's Report ~ Wauben

12.OTHER STAFF REPORTS/MEMORANDUMS

- 12.1 Current Watershed Conditions as of February 20, 2018 ~ Bastien
- 12.2 Upcoming HCA and Partner Events ~ Costie

13.NEW BUSINESS

14.IN-CAMERA ITEMS FOR MATTERS OF LAW, PERSONNEL AND PROPERTY

15.NEXT MEETING - Thursday, April 5, 2018

16.ADJOURNMENT



Memorandum

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

RECOMMENDED BY: T. Scott Peck, MCIP, RPP, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer/Director, Watershed Planning and Engineering

PREPARED BY: Darren Kenny, Watershed Officer

DATE: February 15, 2018

RE: Summary Enforcement Report – Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation 161/06 Applications for March 1, 2018

HCA Regulation applications approved by staff between the dates of January 18, 2018 and February 15, 2018 are summarized in the following Summary Enforcement Report (SER-2/18).

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board of Directors receive this Summary Enforcement Report SER-2/18 as information.

HAMILTON REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
DEVELOPMENT, INTERFERENCE WITH WETLANDS, AND ALTERATIONS TO SHORELINES AND WATERCOURSES APPLICATIONS

February 15, 2018

Development, Interference with Wetlands, and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Applications Report to the Board of Directors of the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority, March 01, 2018

The proposed works are subject to Ontario Regulation 161/06, and in particular Section 2, Subsection (1).

SUMMARY ENFORCEMENT REPORT SER 2/18

File Number	Date Received	Date Permit Issued	Review Days	Applicant Name	Location	Application Description	Recommendation /
SC/F,C/18/01	29-Jan-18	12-Feb-18	11		92 Seabreeze Cres Lot 10, Concession BF Stoney Creek	Construction of a new single family residence in a regulated area of the Lake Ontario shoreline.	Approved subject to standard conditions
H/F,C/17/33	17-May-17	12-Feb-18	67		925 Main St W and 150 Longwood Rd S Lot 21, Concession 3 Hamilton	Placement of fill and construction of a two 15-storey student residence, linked via a 4-storey mixed use podium, which will contain 456 suites to accommodate 910 students, 1,380 cubic metres of ground floor commercial space, 5,901 cubic metres of amenity areas, and a below grade parking garage with 107 vehicle spaces in the regulated area of the Chedoke Creek Valley.	Approved through HCA Board of Directors Resolution

HAMILTON REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting

February 1, 2018

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on Thursday, February 1, 2018 at Woodend Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, Ontario at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Robert Pasuta, in the Chair	
Dan Bowman	Kris Brown
Chad Collins	Doug Conley
Susan Fielding	Lloyd Ferguson
Brad Gautreau	Santina Moccio

Anne Tennier, Past Chair

REGRETS:

Aidan Johnson, Maria Topalovic

Ine Wauben, Foundation

STAFF PRESENT: **Jonathan Bastien, Rondalyn Brown, Lisa Burnside, Gord Costie, Grace Correia, Matt Hall, Bruce Harschnitz, Judy Love, Neil McDougall, Alex Nizharadze, Scott Peck, Bob Saccomano, Mike Stone, Jaime Tellier, and Nancy Watts - HCA Staff**

OTHERS: **Richard Leitner - Media**

NOTE: *For clarity purposes, the minutes are reported in the original agenda order.*

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present.

2. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Chair asked members to declare any conflicts under the Board's Governance Policy. There were none.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Chair requested any additions or deletions to the agenda. The Chair indicated that the member briefing under 6.1 will be presented prior to the hearing under 4.1. Maria Topalovic has sent her regrets and Brad Gautreau will present the CAB minutes under 12.1. Ine Wauben has sent her regrets and Anne Tennier will present the Foundation report under 12.2. There is one new agenda item under New Business – 14.1 – 2018 Levy.

BD12,2505

MOVED BY: Dan Bowman
SECONDED BY: Santina Moccio

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

4. HEARING

4.1 Hearing – 925 Main Street, Hamilton

Robert Pasuta indicated that we are now going in tribunal to conduct a hearing under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act in respect of an application by Plaza Imports Ltd. for permission for development in a regulated area of the Chedoke Creek Valley at 925 Main Street West and 150 Longwood Road South, City of Hamilton.

Robert Pasuta indicated that HCA – Mike Stone will provide a presentation and after his presentation, board members and the applicant are allowed to ask questions. Then the applicant will provide a presentation which the board members and HCA staff are allowed to ask questions after their presentation.

Mike Stone provided a PowerPoint presentation and answered Board member's questions.

Robert Pasuta introduced Brian Duxbury, from Duxbury Law. Brian Duxbury provided an overview and introduced the following people who provided a presentation:

- Sergio Manchia, UrbanSolutions

- Brian Bishop, Amec Foster Wheeler
- James Dann, Landtek Limited
- Michael Spaziani, Michael Spaziani Architects Inc.
- Mary Ann Young, Dougan & Associates

Each person provided a PowerPoint presentation and answered Board member's questions.

Robert Pasuta thanked the group for attending the meeting.

BD12,2506

MOVED BY: Chad Collins

SECONDED BY: Doug Conley

THAT the Board of Directors approve the following recommendation:

THAT the application made by Plaza Imports for the placement of fill and construction of a two 15-storey student residence, linked via a 4-storey mixed use podium, which will contain 456 suites to accommodate 910 students, 1,380m² of ground floor commercial space, 5,901m² of amenity areas, and a below grade parking garage with 107 vehicle spaces in the regulated area of the Chedoke Creek Valley at 925 Main Street, City of Hamilton BE APPROVED as submitted subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The Owner shall retain a copy of the HCA permit and approved plans on-site at all times during construction;**
- 2. The Owner shall adhere to the HCA permit and approved plans, documents and conditions, including HCA redline revisions, herein referred to as the "works", to the satisfaction of HCA. The Owner further acknowledges that all proposed revisions to the design of this project must be submitted for review and approval by HCA prior to implementation of the redesigned works;**
- 3. The Owner shall notify the HCA Watershed Officer 48 hours prior to the commencement of any of the works referred to in this permit and within 48 hours upon completion of the works referred to herein;**

4. The Owner shall arrange a final site inspection of the works with the HCA Watershed Officer prior to the expiration date on the permit to ensure compliance with terms and conditions of the permit to the satisfaction of the HCA:
5. The Owner shall submit a detailed Geotechnical Report to document site conditions, assess slope stability, and describe the proposed development and approach to slope reconstruction and stabilization. The report shall be prepared by a qualified geotechnical engineer in accordance with the *Technical Guide for River and Stream Systems: Erosion Hazard Limit* (OMNR, 2002);
6. The Owner shall submit a final detail Site Plan, Grading Plan, Drainage Plan, Erosion and Sediment Control Plan, and Landscape Restoration Plan;
7. The Owner shall submit a Fill Management Plan, in accordance with HCA's *Application Checklist for Fill Application Submissions*.
8. That landowner authorization for any grading or fill placement work required on adjacent lands be provided to the HCA (City of Hamilton easement and tie-in of the slope face with the westerly neighbor; and further
9. The owner shall enter into a Save Harmless Agreement with the Hamilton Conservation Authority regarding the development of a residential and commercial building as submitted on the subject lands.

CARRIED

5. DELEGATIONS

There was none.

6. MEMBER BRIEFING**6.1 Friends of Westfield Heritage Village – Cheque Presentation**

Robert Pasuta introduced Jeremy Schofield, President of the Friends of Westfield.

Jeremy Schofield indicated that the group of volunteers do fundraising through appeal letters, special events held at Westfield Heritage Village, and the Friends of Westfield Gift Shop.

Jeremy indicated that the Friends are looking forward to 2018 with fundraising for the new Interpretive Support Centre. This building will be used by the volunteers for a costume room.

Jeremy presented a cheque in the amount of \$30,580 to the Foundation on behalf of the Friends of Westfield.

Anne Tennier, Past Chair of the Foundation accepted the cheque.

Robert Pasuta thanked Jeremy Schofield and the Friends of Westfield for their generous donation and all their hard work.

7. APPLICATIONS - DEVELOPMENT, INTERFERENCE WITH WETLANDS, AND ALTERATIONS TO SHORELINES AND WATERCOURSES

(Copies of the supporting staff report are available from the Authority's Administration Office)

Jaime Tellier presented the report.

BD12,2507 MOVED BY: Doug Conley
SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman

**THAT the Board of Directors receive the Summary
Enforcement Report SER – 01/18.**

CARRIED

8. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (December 7, 2017)

BD12,2508 MOVED BY: Chad Collins
SECONDED BY: Santina Moccio

THAT the Board of Directors approve the following recommendation:

THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on December 7, 2017 be approved.

CARRIED

9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was none.

10. PRE-DISTRIBUTED CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

11. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

12. REPORTS

12.1 Conservation Advisory Board (Minutes – December 14, 2017)

Brad Gautreau presented the minutes of the Conservation Advisory Board meeting held on December 14, 2017 and indicated that there were no motions requiring Board of Directors approval.

Motion to Receive the Minutes

BD12,2509

MOVED BY: Brad Gautreau

SECONDED BY: Susan Fielding

THAT the minutes of the Conservation Advisory Board meeting held on December 14, 2017 be approved as amended.

CARRIED

12.2 Foundation Chairman's Report

Anne Tennier, Past Chair reported on the following:

- Total Donations for December and January - \$107,837 as follows:
 - \$25,000 for the Dobson McKee Outdoor Environmental Education Endowment Fund
 - \$24,291 for future improvements in the upcoming Webster's Falls CA Master Plan
 - \$23,107 for continue work on the Hermitage outbuildings
 - \$8,250 for our Area of Greatest Need (Undesignated) Fund
 - \$5,815 for Land Securement
 - \$5,215 for Outdoor Environmental Education
 - \$4,709 in Gifts in Kind for Westfield
 - \$2,500 for Canal Park
 - \$1,810 for the Dundas Valley CA Fund
 - \$1,620 for the Christie Lake CA Fund
 - \$1,350 for Trail Development
 - The remaining \$2,170 came in donations for Dundas Valley Trails, Westfield, Stewardship, and Fifty Point CA

Anne Tennier thanked the Friends of Westfield for all their hard work.

13. **OTHER STAFF REPORTS/MEMORANDUMS**

13.1 Woodend Backup Generator Tender Results

Matt Hall presented the report and answered member's questions. The main office currently has no emergency power supply system to sustain operations in the event of a power outage. During a power outage, the main office not only loses lighting and computer systems, but the water pumps for washrooms and HVAC systems also shut down, leaving these essential services and facilities unavailable for staff and public use. The main office typically experiences loss of power a few times annually and if Hydro One cannot confirm return of power within a relatively short time period, staff are sent home.

A capital project was initiated and approved to investigate and implement a backup power supply system.

Staff issued a public tender and specification documents for firms to consider in their bids and this was advertised publically through the online Biddingo public tender web service and sent to a variety of specific contractors who specialize in this type of work.

It is recommended that this contract be awarded to Fairway Electrical located in Ancaster, ON. They are a fully qualified and bonded, local contracting firm that specializes in electrical supply and construction services.

**BD12,2510 MOVED BY: Lloyd Ferguson
 SECONDED BY: Kris Brown**

THAT the Board of Directors approve the following recommendations:

THAT the supply and install tender for the HCA Main Office (Woodend) Emergency Power Supply System be awarded to Fairway Electrical for a total cost of \$151,001.90, which includes a contingency sum and HST.

CARRIED

At this point it is 10:00 p.m. and a motion needs to take place for the meeting to continue past 10:00 p.m.

**BD12,2511 MOVED BY: Doug Conley
 SECONDED BY: Santina Moccio**

THAT the Board of Directors approve the following recommendations:

THAT the Board of Directors meeting continue past 10:00 p.m.

CARRIED

13.2 Current Watershed Conditions as of January 18, 2018

Jonathan Bastien provided an update on the current conditions. Current water levels are well below critical levels and there are presently no watercourse flooding concerns. Due to the above normal Lake Ontario water levels, strong winds and associated wave action may occur in the future, resulting in increased risk of shoreline erosion and localized flooding along the shoreline. HCA engineering staff continue to closely monitor the conditions.

**BD12,2511 MOVED BY: Susan Fielding
 SECONDED BY: Doug Conley**

THAT the Board of Directors approve the following recommendations:

THAT the memorandum titled Current Watershed Conditions as of January 18, 2018 be received.

CARRIED

13.3 Upcoming HCA and Partner Events

Gord Costie provided an update of the upcoming events that are included in the agenda package.

14. NEW BUSINESS

14.1 2018 Levy

Neil McDougall provided a verbal update. The apportionment of the 2018 levy affects the City of Hamilton and the Township of Puslinch.

For HCA, the City of Hamilton will be paying slightly less, around \$15,000 and the Township of Puslinch will increase by that same figure.

15. IN-CAMERA ITEMS FOR MATTERS OF LAW, PERSONNEL AND PROPERTY

15.1 Confidential Report BD/Feb 01-2018

Robert Pasuta asked members if they would approve the report without going in camera.

BD12,2512

**MOVED BY: Chad Collins
SECONDED BY: Lloyd Ferguson**

THAT the Board of Directors approve the following recommendations:

THAT Report BD/Feb 01-2018 be approved and remain in camera.

CARRIED

RECESS

PART TWO OF MEETING**1. ELECTION PROCEDURES – NEIL MCDUGALL, SECRETARY TREASURER**

Robert Pasuta turned the Chair over to Neil McDougall to conduct the election.

A) Neil McDougall then outlined the following election procedures:

- Nominations only require a “mover”;
- Nominations will be called 3 times for each office;
- Closing of nominations will require a “mover” and a “seconder”;
- Each nominee will be asked if they are willing to serve;

B) If more than one person is nominated, there will be a vote:

- Each nominee will be allowed to speak in support of his/her nomination with a time limit of 5 minutes;
- A vote will be held by secret ballot and no member may vote by proxy;
- A motion to appoint scrutineers and the destruction of ballots will be required.

Neil McDougall asked if there were any questions. No questions were asked.

Neil McDougall declared all offices vacant.

2. APPOINT SCRUTINEERS

BD12,2513

MOVED BY: Chad Collins
SECONDED BY: Brad Gautreau

THAT, if more than one person is nominated, then Scott Peck and Matt Hall be appointed scrutineers; and further

THAT all voting ballots (AGM Election Procedure) be destroyed after the meeting is concluded.

CARRIED

3. ELECTION OF 2018 CHAIR

Neil McDougall called for nominations for the 2018 Chair for the Hamilton Conservation Authority.

Chad Collins nominated Doug Conley

Neil McDougall called for nominations for the 2018 Chair for the Hamilton Conservation Authority a second time.

Neil McDougall called for nominations for the 2018 Chair for the Hamilton Conservation Authority a third and final time.

Having no further nominations, the office of Authority Chair for 2018 was closed with the following resolutions.

**BD12,2514 MOVED BY: Susan Fielding
 SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman**

THAT nominations for the 2018 Chair of the Hamilton Conservation Authority be closed.

CARRIED

Doug Conley was asked if he would serve. He agreed to serve.

**BD12,2515 MOVED BY: Susan Fielding
 SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman**

THAT Doug Conley be confirmed as Chair of the Hamilton Conservation Authority Board of Directors for 2018.

CARRIED

4. ELECTION OF 2018 VICE CHAIR

Neil McDougall called for nominations for the 2018 Vice Chair for the Hamilton Conservation Authority.

Doug Conley nominated Susan Fielding

Neil McDougall called for nominations for the 2018 Vice Chair for the Hamilton Conservation Authority a second time.

Lloyd Ferguson nominated Dan Bowman

Neil McDougall called for nominations for the 2018 Vice Chair for the Hamilton Conservation Authority a third and final time.

Having no further nominations, the office of Authority Vice Chair for 2018 was closed with the following resolutions.

BD12,2516**MOVED BY: Doug Conley
SECONDED BY: Santina Moccio****THAT nominations for the 2018 Vice Chair of the Hamilton Conservation Authority be closed.****CARRIED**

Susan Fielding was asked if she would serve. She agreed to serve.
Dan Bowman was asked if he would serve. He agreed to serve.

Neil McDougall advised that each nominee has 5 minutes to speak for the office of Vice-Chair.

Susan Fielding and Dan Bowman provided a brief summary of their attributes.

Neil McDougall thanked the nominees for their comments and requested the ballots be distributed to the Board members for the purpose of placing their vote.

Scrutineers, Scott Peck and Matt Hall handed out the ballots and then collected all the ballots; left the meeting room for the purpose of counting ballots. Upon returning, scrutineers provided the results to Neil McDougall who announced:

THAT Susan Fielding has been declared Vice Chair of the Hamilton Conservation Authority for 2018.**5. ELECTION OF THREE (3) MEMBERS TO THE BUDGET & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Neil McDougall reported that the Budget & Administration Committee consists of five (5) Board of Director members, the Chair, Vice Chair, and three (3) members elected at large.

Neil McDougall outlined that the nomination procedures were the same as for the Chair and Vice Chair, and called for nominations.

Chad Collins nominated Santina Moccio**Chad Collins nominated Dan Bowman****Chad Collins nominated Lloyd Ferguson**

Neil McDougall called for nominations twice more. There were none.

BD12,2517**MOVED BY: Chad Collins
SECONDED BY: Brad Gautreau**

THAT nominations for the 2018 Budget & Administration Committee be closed.

CARRIED

Neil McDougall asked Santina Moccio, Dan Bowman, and Lloyd Ferguson if they would accept their nominations. They agreed to serve.

BD12,2518 **MOVED BY:** **Chad Collins**
SECONDED BY: **Kris Brown**

THAT Santina Moccio, Dan Bowman, and Lloyd Ferguson be confirmed as members of the Budget & Administration Committee for 2018.

CARRIED

6. ELECTION OF CHAIR TO CONSERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

Neil McDougall called for nominations.

Santina Moccio nominated Maria Topalovic

Neil McDougall called for nominations twice more. There were none.

BD12,2519 **MOVED BY:** **Santina Moccio**
SECONDED BY: **Dan Bowman**

THAT nominations for the 2018 Conservation Advisory Board Chair be closed.

CARRIED

The Chair noted that the Secretary Treasurer received written correspondence from Maria Topalovic and she agreed to serve.

BD12,2520 **MOVED BY:** **Santina Moccio**
SECONDED BY: **Susan Fielding**

THAT Maria Topalovic be confirmed as Chair of the Conservation Advisory Board for 2019.

CARRIED

7. BOARD REPRESENTATIVES TO CONSERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

The Chair asked members if they were interested in sitting on the Conservation Advisory Board to sign the sign in sheet. The Chair explained that the Chair and Vice Chair are ex-officio of the Conservation Advisory Board.

Please pass the sign in sheet around and indicate if you are interested in sitting on the Conservation Advisory Board.

In addition to the Chair of CAB, Maria Topalovic, we have two board members that are interested in sitting on the Conservation Advisory Board; Brad Gautreau and Robert Pasuta.

8. NEW BUSINESS**8.1 Appointment of Representative(s) to Conservation Ontario**

The Chair indicated that the Board of Directors are required to appoint three representatives which shall be registered with Conservation Ontario annually as Voting Delegates for Council.

BD12,2521**MOVED BY: Chad Collins****SECONDED BY: Brad Gautreau**

THAT HCA appoints the following members as their representatives to Conservation Ontario for 2018:

Lisa Burnside, CAO**Doug Conley, Chair****Susan Fielding, Vice Chair****CARRIED****9. IN-CAMERA ITEMS FOR MATTERS OF LAW, PERSONNEL AND PROPERTY**

There was none.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, March 1, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at Woodend Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, Ontario.

11. ADJOURNMENT

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

9.1



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF HAMILTON

January 25, 2018

The Honourable Kathleen Wynne
Premier of Ontario
Room 281, Main Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A1

The Honourable Nathalie Des Rosier
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry
Suite 6630, 6th Floor, Whitney Block
99 Wellesley Street West
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1W3

Councillor Robert Pasuta, Chair
The Hamilton Conservation Authority
Board of Directors
838 Mineral Springs Road
Ancaster, ON L9G 3L1

Dear Premier Wynne, Minister Des Rosiers and Chair Pasuta:

At its meeting of January 24, 2018, Hamilton City Council approved Item 7.11 which reads as follows:

7.11 Conservation Authority Boundary Review

(Green/Farr)

WHEREAS, Deputy Mining and Lands Commissioner Marianne Orr rejected Hamilton's appeal against the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority that the authority was charging too much under the new presented formula;

WHEREAS, it means the city has had to pay double the levy that City of Hamilton paid in 2014 and previous years;

WHEREAS, the Grand River Authority has brought forward a tax levy with a \$1,000,000 increase on the City of Hamilton's levy portion which is a 427% annual increase;

WHEREAS, there are provisions provided in Part III of the *Conservation Authorities Act* (R.S.O. 1990, Chapter C.27), which outlines:

REC'D: FEB -2 2018

File No.:

Replied:

ENLARGING AREAS OF JURISDICTION, AMALGAMATIONS AND DISSOLUTIONS

Enlargement of authority's area

10 (1) If an authority has been established, the council of a municipality that is completely or partly outside the jurisdiction of the authority may call a meeting to consider the enlargement of the area over which the authority has jurisdiction to include an area specified by the municipality. 1998, c. 18, Sched.I, s. 3 (1).

WHEREAS, Under the Apportionment Act the perceived benefit to the taxpayers of the City of Hamilton is a legal consideration; and

WHEREAS, given the astronomical levy increase placed on our municipal tax levy by neighbouring Authorities the perceived benefit is no longer commensurate to the perceived value of our residents supporting neighbouring municipalities;

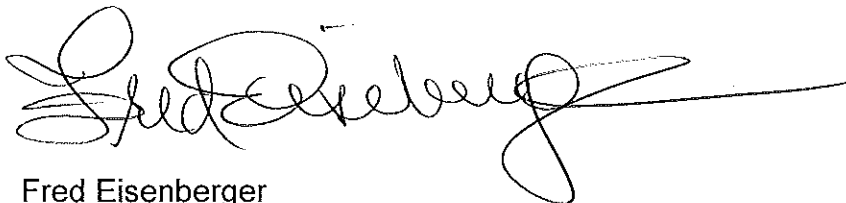
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That Mayor formally request on behalf of the City of Hamilton that the Hamilton Conservation Authority take the formal steps necessary to request an enlargement of Hamilton's jurisdiction to include the overlapping geographic areas with the neighbouring Conservation Authorities; and
- (b) That correspondence be sent to Premier Kathleen Wynne and to the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, the Honourable Nathalie Des Rosiers, outlining the disproportionate burden the current formulas used by the Lands and Mines commissioner to determine levy's under the Act.

CARRIED

We respectfully request your consideration with respect to the concerns noted above, and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

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

Fred Eisenberger
Mayor

9.2

397 King St. W,
Dundas, ON. L9H 1W9

Mr. Doug Connelly
President HCA Board of Directors
838 Mineral Springs Road
Ancaster, ON. L9G 3L1

FEB 15 2018

Rec'd: _____

File No.: _____

Replied: _____

Monday, February 5, 2018

Dear Members of the Hamilton Conservation Authority Board of Directors,

I write to you on behalf of a subcommittee at the Dundas District Lofts, which was formed last year to investigate increasing traffic and parking problems at our residence at 397 King Street West in Dundas. The purpose of this letter is to provide you with information about the nature of these concerns, ask that the HCA consider them as part of the problem solving process, and finally, a request to be part of the consultative process whereby decisions are being considered by the Hamilton Conservation Authority (and the City of Hamilton) to address this situation.

Over the past four years since the Dundas District Lofts became a residential space, there has been a steady increase in both vehicular and pedestrian traffic on the property as a direct result of visitors seeking access to the Dundas Peak. In 2017, there was a substantial increase in the volume of this traffic during the spring, summer and, most particularly, the fall season. Residents have been significantly impacted by this increase with respect to privacy and enjoyment of their home as well as concerns for safety and liability.

The nature of the impact on both the residents of the Dundas District Lofts and the neighbouring community include:

- Increased traffic on private property entering and turning around
- Unauthorized/illegal parking on private property
- Increased pedestrian traffic on our property
 - Seeking directions
 - Using property as a shortcut to King Street
 - Attempting to climb escarpment directly
 - Invasion of residents' privacy
 - Seeking washrooms
 - Knocking on doors
 - Looking in windows
- Disrespectful behavior

- Rude treatment of residents when questioned or approached
- Litter
- Urinating on property
- Picnicking on property
- Congregating on property/sitting on curbs

You will already be aware that Google has moved the location of the peak from our address to that of Tew Falls. We are aware that this is predicted to improve the local situation here by reducing the volume of visitors, especially first time visitors who rely on their GPS devices. It will not, however, entirely solve the problem. The reason is that many of the visitors are not coming for the first time and/or are intentionally seeking to avoid the cost of bussing and/or ticketing in the first place. There are also visitors who specifically seek an additional experience by scaling the escarpment and using the railway access. This is evidenced in various social media formats which highlight ways to avoid the costs of parking and ticketing. So, while the bussing certainly alleviated some of the difficulties for Greensville residents, it has had the unintended consequence of redirecting the problem elsewhere.

With Hamilton advertised and promoted as the 'Waterfall Capital of the World'/'City of Waterfalls', coupled with current trend of Nature-Based Tourism, this increase in visitors will continue. In the spirit of seeking a positive resolution that is agreeable to all, and having fulsome information about the scope of the problem, the residents of the Dundas District Lofts seek to be part of any consultative processes and next steps. Solutions will be found among partnerships, and we believe that by working closely with the Hamilton Conservation Authority, as well as the City of Hamilton, that appropriate solutions can be found.

Respectfully submitted,



Judy Anderson

On behalf of the Dundas District Lofts Subcommittee


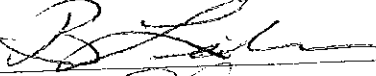
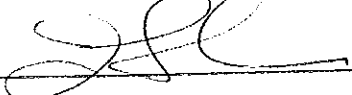
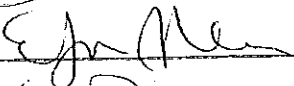

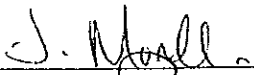
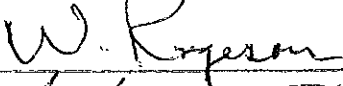

Cc: Councillor Arlene Vanderbeek, City of Hamilton
Board of Directors of the Dundas District Lofts

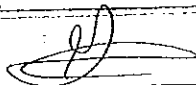
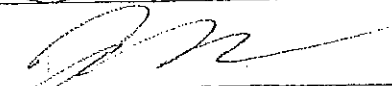
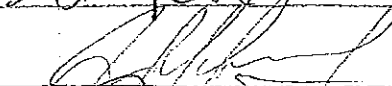


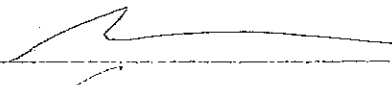


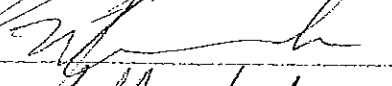
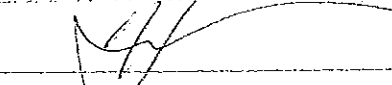
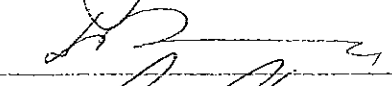


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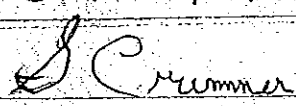
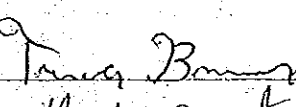
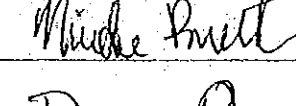
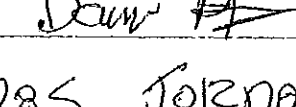
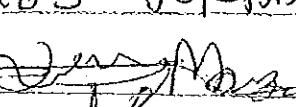
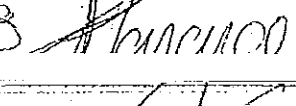
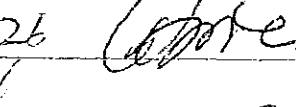
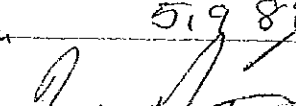
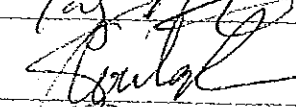
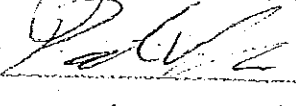
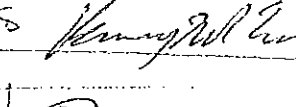
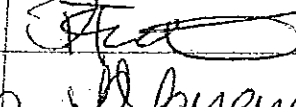
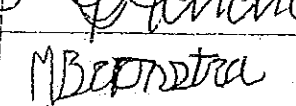
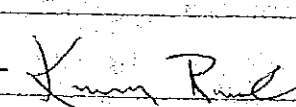
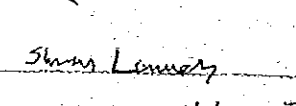
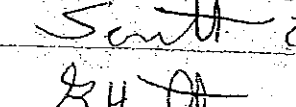
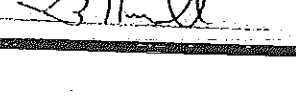

9.3

The Hamilton Conservation Area has deemed the Whitetail deer to be a nuisance on their land and has held the deer responsible for the lack of low lying forest growth. They've come to the conclusion that a cull within their boundaries would be beneficial to allow for new growth to return to the forest floor. The Ministry of Natural Resources dictates in a management unit the number of buck and doe tags that are allocated to the average hunter. At the outset of each indigenous hunt a target is set out for how many deer will be culled, but no designation has ever been publicly made as to how many of either sex will be culled. The goal has been set to harvest 60 deer during the 2017/18 hunt. Conservatively if 30 out of the 60 are doe's (pregnant with singles or twins), and 30 are bucks the following spring that removes 80-90 deer out of the valley. With the number of years this hunt has been executed and no sign of it stopping there will be NO room for the herd to grow or sustain itself. Also, factors such as the severity of past winters, night time poaching, coyote predation and the availability of food sources have been hard on mortality as well and need to be taken into account. All of these issues and factors are very visible to today's herd as without a doubt the herd is a fraction of what it once was. This hunt has been in existence for a number of years now and the Hamilton Conservation and the Haudenosaunee as responsible participants in this hunt have not shown evidence of any aerial surveys or any other research to show that the herd is within sustainable levels for future hunts and further harvest. I'm not debating the Haudenosaunee hunting rights, but I am questioning the practicality of future hunts without any sort of statistics as to whether future hunts in the area can be sustained ethically and with the herds best interest in mind.

President
The Dundas/Ancaster Valley Bowhunters Association

PRINT NAME	SIGNATURE	PHONE #
TERRY Clark		905 973 0810
BILL LESLIE		905 545 0687
JIM LESLIE		905-545-0687
Evelyn Morallie		905 545 0687
Alan Parkinson		905 545 0687
James Morallie		905 545 0687
William Rogerson		905 643 6001
JAM BOOCAN		905-545-0693

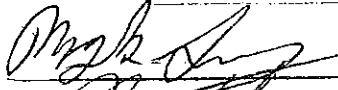
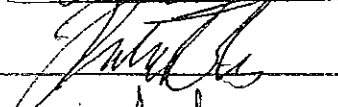

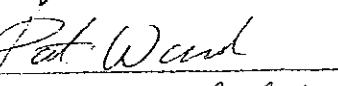
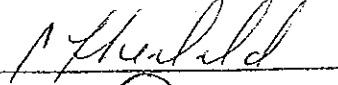
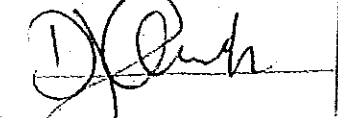
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405 334 7850		Earl Goodale
289-925-5037		JIM MCLULLOUGH
905-745-7664	Rob Poyner	Rob POYNER
289-244-9444	Al Pona	Al PONA
905-977-8130	Cheryl Navarrete	CHERYL NAVARRETE
905 820 9798		Jeff Gough
905 325 1715		Carey Labink
905 962 1328		GEORGE COWE
519-498-9011		GERARD BYRNE
226-791-7725		COREY BISSON
519-897-0321		Tommy Cunningham
226 926 5686		MIKE CHESLOCK
519-505-3925	Jeff Ford	JEFF FORD
226-392-3624	Wayne Reilly	WAYNE REILLY
416 419 8001		ALAN BARNES
416 986 3920		LINDA BARNES
		Tom Harris
		NORM FAWCETT

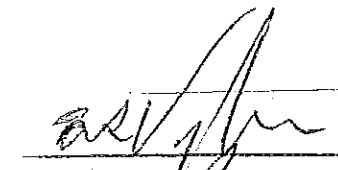
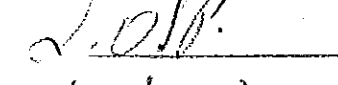
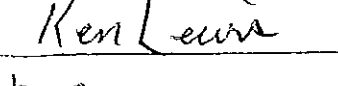
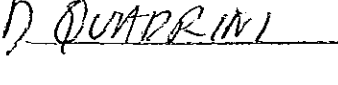
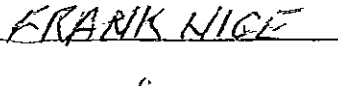
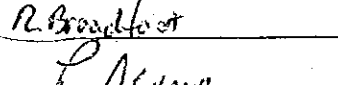
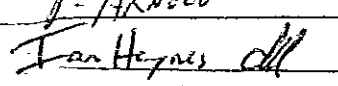

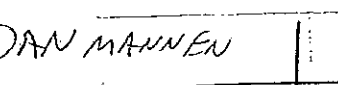
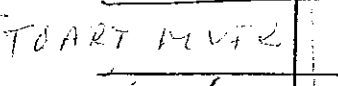
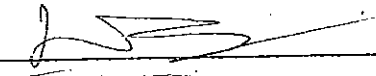
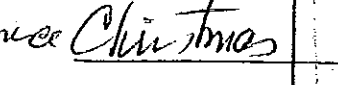
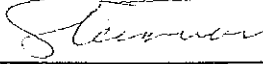
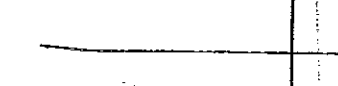
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519 590-8436		SCOTT CRUMMER
519-878-0489		T. Brunson
519-301-870		Nicole Boonstra
519-274-9859		Dan Anderson
226-973-9285		JORDAN TORRANCE
519-318-8607		JEFF MOSSEY
519-670-1578		JIM TORRANCE
519-222-6826		DEAF MCCREE
519-240-6096		GARY WYMAN
519-766-7229		TONY MAROSTEA
519-836-8680		Steve Carlock
519-747-2048		PAUL VICARY
519-301-8411		Barry McConnell
519-630-9710		DEREK BOONSTRA
519-301-6432		RACHAEL TORRANCE
519-274-1287		Max Boonstra
519-317-2130		Kevin Reid
519-301-811		Shawn Lannan
519-318-8873		SCOTT FRAYNE
		Ben Hewitt




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PRINT NAME

PH NUMBER

	MARK SWING	905-304-8086
	LILIANA JOVANOVIC	416-857-4720
	April Swing	905 304 8096
	PAT WARD	905-818-7864
	Christie Theobald	905 541 4070
	Dano Quirk	905 577 5208

	Iona CRT	905 765-6631
	HAMILTON	289-260-2554
	Dundas	905-627-0496
	BURLINGTON	905-336-9082
	HAMILTON	905 522 4954
	HAMILTON	780-340-9114
	Hamilton	905. 549-5556
	Amster	905 981 7910
	DUNDAS	905 870-4111
		289-440-0139
		289-344-0949
	BRUCE CHRISTMAS	905-679-6079

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905-730-4472	Edward W. Miller	TED MILLER
905-679-0026		DAVE DEGALAR
905-515-1246	Charlie Polizzi	CHARLIE POLIZZI
905-921-4411	Shawn Tobow	SHAWN TOBOW
905-348-0085		TODD BRENS
905-531-6784		CHRIS STEINBERG
905-518-7539	J. Martin	Joe Martin

HAMILTON CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

MINUTES

Budget & Administration Committee

February 15, 2018

Minutes of the Budget & Administration Committee meeting held on Thursday, February 15, 2018 at Woodend Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, Ontario, at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Susan Fielding, in the Chair
Dan Bowman
Doug Conley
Lloyd Ferguson
Santina Moccio

STAFF PRESENT: Lisa Burnside, Gord Costie, Judy Love, Neil McDougall, and
Nancy Watts - HCA Staff

1. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Susan Fielding welcomed members and staff.

2. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There was none.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Chair requested any additions or deletions to the agenda.

BA1801 **MOVED BY:** Dan Bowman
 SECONDED BY: Doug Conley

**THAT the February 15, 2018 Budget & Administration
Committee meeting agenda be approved.**

CARRIED

4. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

Neil McDougall called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair. Dan Bowman nominated Santina Moccio. Neil called for nominations twice more. There were none. Having no further nominations, the office of Vice Chair of the Budget & Administration Committee for 2018 was closed with the following resolution.

BA1802 **MOVED BY:** **Dan Bowman**
 SECONDED BY: **Doug Conley**

THAT the nominations for 2018 Vice-Chair of the Budget & Administration Committee be closed.

CARRIED

Neil asked Santina if she would serve. Santina agreed to serve and was acclaimed as the Vice Chair of the Budget & Administration Committee for 2018.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT ON BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACTIONS

Susan Fielding reported that all recommendations from the September 21, 2017 Budget & Administration Committee meeting were approved by the Board of Directors.

6. DELEGATIONS

There was none.

7. MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING (September 21, 2017)

BA1803 **MOVED BY:** **Santina Moccio**
 SECONDED BY: **Doug Conley**

THAT the minutes of the Budget & Administration Committee meeting held on September 21, 2017 be approved as written.

CARRIED

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was none.

9. STAFF REPORTS/MEMORANDUMS

9.1 12 Month Financial Results - Operating

Neil McDougall provided an update on the 12 month financial results for HCA and answered member's questions. The 4th quarter was strong in 2017 with October presenting some of the best weather of the year.

Watershed Planning and Engineering:

- Revenues:
 - Federal and provincial grants were down from last year as fewer projects were initiated
 - Permit fees exceed both plan and last year as development activity continued to grow
- Expenses:
 - staffing expenses continued below last year's level due to a combination of lower seasonal staff and a fulltime vacancy
 - consultants and contractors are lower as this year has fewer projects
- Net:
 - the two variables that impact WP&E the most are permit fee revenue and staffing costs
 - both were in our favour this year
 - project work was down which impact both revenue and cost areas

Conservation Areas:

- Revenues:
 - camping closed the year ahead of both last year and budget as there was no fire ban and fewer beach closures in 2017 making the camping experience more attractive
 - Marina operations were hurt by the high water levels in Lake Ontario this spring and were not able to recover
 - admissions were down from last year due primarily to wet weather on weekends
- Expenses:
 - staffing increased over last year as expected as there were vacant positions last year
 - contracts and security costs were above last year reflecting efforts at Spencer Gorge to reduce traffic in and around the Falls
- Net:
 - Despite some softness in admissions the Conservation Areas managed to make a solid contribution

Westfield Heritage Village:

- Revenues:
 - regular gate and event admissions, combined, fell short of budget but did record sales greater than a year ago
 - significant drop in film revenues which fell \$40k from last year
 - film industry is very inconsistent
- Expenses:
 - staff expense was held below last year's level
 - all other expenses in total exceeded budget but were less than 2016
- Net:
 - a positive contribution exceeding \$100k was better than last year but not to planned levels and \$20k less than would have been received under the management agreement that operated prior to ownership

Corporate Support:

- Revenues:
 - No significant variances to budget and lower to last year primarily as a reflection of a lower amount of intra-company equipment usage charges
- Expenses:
 - Staffing expenses were favourable to budget due to timing of personnel changes and only 1% above last year for similar reasons
 - Contract expense was increased reflecting the installation of a security system at the Millgrove Yard
- Net:
 - The deficit in Corporate services was within the levels that had been expected since midway through the year and within the range that could be safely handled

BA1804**MOVED BY: Doug Conley
SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman****THAT the 12 month financial results for 2017 be received.****CARRIED****9.2 2017 – 4th Quarter Vendor Listing Report**

Neil McDougall provided an update on the 4th quarter vendor listing report for 2017. Neil answered member's questions.

BA1805**MOVED BY: Dan Bowman
SECONDED BY: Santina Moccio****THAT the Vendor Listing report for the 4th quarter in 2017 be received.****CARRIED****9.3 Initial Communication on Audit Planning**

Neil McDougall presented the document. The purpose of this document, is to initiate effective two way communication with staff regarding the financial statement audit engagement of HCA and Confederation Beach Park for the year ending December 31, 2017. This communication will assist the committee in understanding the terms of the audit engagement, proposed audit strategy and the level of responsibility assumed by Grant Thornton under Canadian auditing standards.

Neil indicated that the audit will be completed in March and will be brought forward to the Budget & Administration Committee in April and the Board of Directors meeting in May.

BA1806**MOVED BY: Santina Moccio
SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman****THAT the report to the Budget & Administration Committee – Initial communication on audit planning be received.****CARRIED****9.4 Mileage Report**

Nancy Watts presented the report and indicated a yearly review of mileage is to take place with any change effective January 1.

The December 2017 year over year CPI for Private Transportation in Ontario did increase by 1.5%. A poll of area Conservation Authorities was completed and the average rate is 52.57 cents per kilometer.

The HCA has been found to be competitive with our rate, it is therefore recommended that the current mileage rate of 53 cents per kilometer remain unchanged for 2018.

BA1807**MOVED BY: Lloyd Ferguson
SECONDED BY: Santina Moccio**

THAT the Budget & Administration Committee recommends to the Board of Directors:

THAT the current mileage rate of 53 cents per kilometer remain unchanged for 2018.

CARRIED

9.5 WSIB Injury Statistics

Nancy Watts provided a PowerPoint presentation on the WSIB Injury Statistics from September 30 to December 31, 2017. Nancy answered member's questions.

Nancy indicated between September 30 and December 31, WSIB approved 3 Medical Aid Claims:

- bee sting
- eye injury
- nose injury

Claims were made by casual-seasonal employees.

Between September 30 and December 31, 2017, there were no lost time claims.

2017 Year End Results:

HCA had 10 Medical Aid Claims and 3 Lost Time Claims reported to WSIB.

- 2 slip and fall
- 1 motor vehicle accident
- 4 physical injuries
- 3 bug bites
- 1 scrape
- 2 physical exertion

Claims were made by both full time and casual-seasonal employees.

Nancy provided a year over year summary to 2016 for comparison. As of December 31, 2017, HCA experienced 11 medical aid claims in 2016 vs. 10 claims in 2017 and 1 lost time claim in 2016 vs. 3 claims in 2017. It was noted that while this shows an increase, no claims were severe and overall number of claims is low.

BA1808

MOVED BY: Santina Moccio
SECONDED BY: Doug Conley

THAT the presentation on the WS&IB Overview and HCA Accident Statistics be received.

CARRIED

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.1 Agenda Packages

Santina Moccio suggested that staff consider using a consent agenda for the Budget & Administration Committee and the Board of Directors meetings to streamline the meeting.

Lisa indicated that staff will check our governance policy to see what is standing for the Board. Members have asked staff to research and look into this and report back to the Budget & Administration Committee.

11. IN-CAMERA ITEMS FOR MATTERS OF LAW, PERSONNEL AND PROPERTY

**BA1809 MOVED BY: Doug Conley
 SECONDED BY: Santina Moccio**

THAT the Budget & Administration Committee moves *in camera* for matters of law, personnel and property.

CARRIED

There was one legal matter discussed during the *in camera* session.

11.1 Confidential Report BA/Feb 01-2018

Lisa Burnside provided a verbal update and answered member's questions.

**BA1810 MOVED BY: Santina Moccio
 SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman**

THAT the Budget & Administration Committee moves out of *in camera*.

CARRIED

12. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be scheduled for Thursday, April 19, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at Woodend Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, Ontario.

13. ADJOURNMENT

On motion, the meeting adjourned.



Report

TO: Budget & Administration Committee Members

FROM: Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

PREPARED BY: Nancy Watts, Director of Human Resources & Wellness

DATE: January 22, 2018

RE: 2018 Mileage Rate

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Budget & Administration Committee recommends to the Board of Directors:

THAT the current mileage rate of 53 cents per kilometre remain unchanged for 2018.

BACKGROUND

As approved by the Budget & Administration Committee in June 2007 and the Board of Directors in July 2007, a yearly review of mileage is to take place with any change effective January 1.

STAFF COMMENT

CPI Index

The December 2017 year over year CPI for Private Transportation in Ontario did increase by 1.5%.

Area Conservation Authority Mileage Rates

The table below shows a summary of mileage rates from area conservation authorities:

<u>Conservation Authority</u>	<u>Rate – cents per km</u>
Nottawasaga	54
Lake Simcoe	55
Halton	55
Grand River	50
Credit Valley	54
Niagara	50
Toronto	50
Average	52.57

Canada Revenue Agency

Canada Revenue Agency publishes a guideline for calculating what is a “reasonable allowance” that would not be deemed to be taxable income. For 2018, that guideline is 55 cents for the first 5,000 km and 49 cents per km thereafter.

Based on the above information, maintaining the current mileage rate of 53 cents per km is recommended to remain unchanged for 2018 as the CPI Transportation Index increase is a rebound after the previous year decrease and the HCA mileage rate is competitive with area Conservation Authorities.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGE

The initiative refers directly to the HCA Strategic Plan 2014-2018:

- **Strategic Goal #5 Organization Excellence**
 - Strategic Objective – Maintain and enhance a corporate philosophy focussed on cost control, sponsorship, revenue generation, sustainable municipal funding and, customer service.

AGENCY COMMENTS

Not applicable.

LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

CONCLUSIONS

As the Hamilton Conservation Authority has been found to be competitive with our rate, it is therefore recommended that the 2017 mileage rate of 53 cents per kilometre be maintained for 2018.

HAMILTON CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**Conservation Advisory Board****MINUTES****February 8, 2018**

Minutes of the Conservation Advisory Board meeting held on Thursday, February 8, 2018 at HCA's Woodend Administration Building commencing at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT:**Morgan Pirie, Chair****John Barkovic****Lydia Cartlidge****Susan Fielding****Donna Kydd****Duke O'Sullivan****John Shaw****Kristen Brittain****Doug Conley****Brad Gautreau****Cheryl Larocque****Robert Pasuta****Wayne Terryberry****REGRETS:**

Frank Cucullo, Joanne Di Maio, Chris Michels, Marie Robbins, Maria Topalovic

STAFF PRESENT:

Carissa Bishop, Nick Burgess, Lisa Burnside, Grace Correia, Gord Costie, Bruce Harschnitz, Peter Lloyd, Judy Love, Scott Peck, and Nancy Watts – HCA Staff

OTHERS:**Richard Leitner - Media****1. CHAIR'S REMARKS**

Morgan Pirie welcomed everyone and indicated the regrets received for the meeting. Morgan indicated that Councillor Doug Conley was appointed the Chair of the Board of Directors, Councillor Susan Fielding was appointed the Vice Chair of the Board of Directors, and Maria Topalovic was appointed the Chair of the Conservation Advisory Board.

2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Chair asked members to declare any conflicts of interest. There was none.

3. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

Scott Peck called for nominations for Vice Chair. Duke O'Sullivan nominated Morgan Pirie for the position of Vice Chair. As there were no other nominations put forward, Morgan Pirie was acclaimed the Vice Chair.

CA1801 MOVED BY: Duke O'Sullivan
SECONDED BY: Susan Fielding

**THAT Morgan Pirie be confirmed as Vice Chair of the
Conservation Advisory Board for 2018.**

CARRIED

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Chair requested any additions or deletions to the agenda. There were none.

CA1802 MOVED BY: Donna Kydd
SECONDED BY: Wayne Terryberry

THAT the agenda be approved.

CARRIED

5. DELEGATIONS

There was none.

6. MEMBER BRIEFING

There was none.

7. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT OF BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S ACTIONS

Morgan reported that there were no recommendations to be approved by the Board of Directors.

8. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**8.1 Minutes – Conservation Advisory Board (December 14, 2017)****CA1803****MOVED BY: John Shaw
SECONDED BY: Doug Conley****THAT the minutes of the December 14, 2017
Conservation Areas Advisory Board meeting be
approved.****CARRIED****9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES****9.1 Tracking Report**

Morgan asked members if there were any questions on the Tracking Report.

10. STAFF REPORTS/MEMORANDUMS**10.1 Merrick Cider Shack Pavilion Conversion**

Carissa Bishop provided a PowerPoint presentation and answered member's questions. Staff are recommending the Merrick Cider Shack be converted into a pavilion. Dundas Valley Conservation Area currently only has two covered picnic areas. There is a need for shelter on the trails during thunder and lightning storms for visitors and staff.

Recommendations for the refurbished pavilion and surrounding area include:

- open air with covered roof
- gravel base for minimal maintenance
- picnic tables for visitors
- cider press and sliding track doors to remain on site to preserve building heritage features
- horse tie up located beside pavilion for equestrians
- interpretive signage to explain cultural and ecological significance to the area

A newly converted pavilion would be used by Outdoor Environmental Education classes as a staging area for programs that take place in the orchard, a rest area during guided school hikes, and a resource for summer camp programs.

The pavilion could be utilized by hiking groups, as the former orchard is now home to a thriving meadow which is an ideal location for bird watching.

Initial plan estimates show that it will take approximately \$50,000 to convert the shack into a pavilion and make improvements to the area. The entire cost is expected to be funded through donations to the Hamilton Conservation Foundation.

CA1804

MOVED BY: Doug Conley
SECONDED BY: Wayne Terryberry

THAT the Conservation Advisory Board recommends to the Board of Directors:

THAT the Merrick Cider Shack be approved for a new use and be converted into a pavilion.

CARRIED

10.2 2017 Artifact Donation Acquisitions Report

Peter Lloyd provided a presentation and answered member's questions. Peter indicated that Westfield Heritage Village has a comprehensive Collections Management Policy.

Westfield maintains an artifact and archival collection consisting of more than 25,000 objects reflecting the social, cultural and material history of the area. This policy affirms the museum's commitment to managing this collection according to current professional standards for preservation, documentation, research and use of the collection.

Objects acquired for the collection will be consistent with the mandate, goals, and priorities of the site. Objects collected will normally represent the types of material goods that would have been locally manufactured, routinely available or the product of local activity in Southern Ontario from the period 1790 – 1925.

Westfield staff are diligent about adhering to the very important collections management policies and museum standards to ensure the Hamilton Conservation Authority is managing the artifact collection in a professional manner. The artifact donation list needs to be approved each year. Adding the artifacts on this list to the Westfield Heritage Village collection will preserve important pieces of local history and enhance the experience for visitors.

CA1805

MOVED BY: Duke O'Sullivan
SECONDED BY: Susan Fielding

THAT the Conservation Advisory Board recommends to the Board of Directors:

THAT the Westfield 2017 Artifact Acquisitions List be approved and the artifacts added to the Westfield Heritage Village and Hamilton Region Conservation Authority collection.

CARRIED

10.3 Attendance Figures for 2017

Gord Costie provided a PowerPoint presentation on the attendance figures for 2017. Gord indicated that staff are starting to track and gather more data on attendance figures. We have trail counters in some areas.

Confederation Beach Park is a free entry park with the highest attendance figure of 510,000.

Following is the attendance figures for the Conservation Areas:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| • Christie Lake | 140,000 |
| • Dundas Valley | 150,000 |
| • Fifty Point | 100,000 |
| • Spencer Gorge | 95,000 |
| • Valens Lake | 105,000 |
| • Westfield Heritage Village | 45,000 |
| • Wild Waterworks | 100,477 |

Gord answered member's questions.

CA1806 MOVED BY: Wayne Terryberry
SECONDED BY: Brad Gautreau

THAT the Conservation Advisory Board recommends to the Board of Directors:

THAT the attendance figures for 2017 be received.

CARRIED

10.4 2018 Shuttle Bus Service – Spencer Gorge Wilderness Area

Gord Costie provided a presentation and indicated that the Spencer Gorge Conservation Area has traditionally been a very popular conservation area. Over

the past number of years, attendance has increased in excess of 100,000 visitors.

In February 2016, the Board of Directors approved a pilot Shuttle Bus Services as a direct response to decrease street parking, reduce traffic congestion, and improve safety. A local Greenville organization (Think Greenville) operated the shuttle bus.

In 2017, the shuttle bus service operated from May 13 to October 29, 2017, on weekends and public holidays removing over 16,000 vehicles from the area roads and safely transporting close to 48,000 visitors.

Through the operation and completion of 2017 pilot shuttle bus operations, staff have had an opportunity to experience all aspects of the service and evaluate what worked appropriately as well as gain perspectives on components that needed to be revisited.

One significant aspect of the shuttle service identified as needing refinement involves its base location. Staff are recommending that the shuttle bus service base be relocated to Christie Lake Conservation Area.

Following are some of the key issues that staff struggled with by using a private parking lot in 2017:

- wayfinding to private parking lot
- no turning lanes both east and west bound on Hwy 5
- site lines identifying parking areas
- short single lane entry to gatehouse
- shared parking area with private operator customers
- small parking lot with no overflow
- lack of washrooms and picnic areas
- neighbourhood disruption to Mazza Road residents
- bylaw zoning noncompliance

Following are key attributes for the shuttle bus service base to be relocated at Christie Lake in 2018:

- superior wayfinding with Christie Lake recognition and current signage
- turning lanes both east and west bound on Hwy 5
- dual entry lane of 250 meters to gatehouse
- dual gatehouse entry terminals
- dual POS systems, electronic and encrypted transactions
- largest parking areas – designed gravel and overflow area
- picnic areas, washrooms, waterfront, rentals

The shuttle bus operations will potentially impact Christie Lake operations during peak season with special events such as the Christie Antique Show and third party bookings. One option includes having a dedicated bus exit/entry system to mitigate traffic issues using the Middletown Road gateway when required.

A successful shuttle operation will require ongoing Bylaw Enforcement of no parking/stopping within the Greensville vicinity to deter all unauthorized parking and to shut down unauthorized “pop up” parking lots is critical to keep traffic out and away from the hamlet area.

City of Hamilton staff have been advised of this proposal to use Christie Lake Conservation Area and have confirmed zoning bylaw compliance.

Bruce Harschnitz provided a PowerPoint presentation with a virtual tour of the Christie Lake explaining the flow of traffic and the parking lot area.

Staff answered member’s questions.

CA1807

MOVED BY: Doug Conley
SECONDED BY: Brad Gautreau

THAT the Conservation Advisory Board recommends to the Board of Directors:

THAT the shuttle bus service for the Spencer Gorge Conservation Area be continued in 2018; and

THAT the shuttle bus service operate on weekends and public holidays beginning Saturday, May 12 and running until Sunday, October 28, 2018 weather pending; and further

THAT the shuttle bus service base be relocated to Christie Lake Conservation Area.

CARRIED

10.5 Upcoming Events

Gord Costie provided an update of the upcoming events that was provided in the agenda package.

11. **NEW BUSINESS**

There was none.

12. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the CAB is scheduled for Thursday, March 8, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

13. ADJOURNMENT

On motion, the meeting was adjourned.



Report

TO: Conservation Advisory Board Members

FROM: Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

RECOMMENDED BY: Gord Costie, Director of Conservation Area Services

PREPARED BY: Carissa Bishop, Superintendent

DATE: February 1st, 2018

RE: Merrick Cider Shack Pavilion Conversion

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Conservation Advisory Board recommends to the Board of Directors:

THAT the Merrick Cider Shack be approved for a new use and be converted into a pavilion.

BACKGROUND

The Merrick family planted the orchard more than 50 years ago, with HCA purchasing the property and existing buildings in 1975. The Cider Shack was built by the HCA in the late 1970's to house an apple cider press.

Each fall, the HCA hosted an apple festival, complete with tractor rides, apple collection and cider production in the shack. The public event was also introduced into HCA Outdoor Environmental Education program offerings and was popular for 15-20 years. The Cider Shack was used on a daily basis from the late 1970's until 1996 when the Merrick Field Centre was closed. Classes were largely orchestrated in the adjacent orchard, and the Cider Shack acted as a location for groups to meet and information to be shared.

Since the Field Centre's closure and subsequent demolition and area naturalization, the Cider Shack has sat idle and left to deteriorate in the orchard.

The Merrick Cider Shack was scheduled to be demolished in July 2015, but was held off due to conservation area staff interest in preserving the building.

This recommendation was brought to HCA Executive Team in January 2018 and approved.

STAFF COMMENT

Dundas Valley Conservation Area staff are recommending the Merrick Cider Shack be converted into a pavilion. DVCA currently only has two covered picnic areas: the Trail Centre and Stacey Meadow Pavilion, which is rented out consistently in summer months for family gatherings and weddings.

Our 40 kilometers of trails offer many bench locations as rest stops, but there are currently no other shaded and protected areas for visitors to picnic or gather under. There is a need for shelter on the trails during thunder and lightning storms for visitors and staff.

The building has become an eyesore in recent years and is a source of frequent vandalism. The cost and labour to repair damaged siding is high during summer months.

Recommendations for the refurbished pavilion and surrounding area include:

- Open air with covered roof
- Gravel base for minimal maintenance
- Picnic tables for visitors
- Cider Press and sliding track doors to remain on site to preserve building heritage features
- Horse tie up located beside pavilion for equestrians
- Interpretive signage to explain cultural and ecological significance of the area

A newly converted pavilion in the Merrick Orchard would be used by Outdoor Environmental Education classes as a staging area for programs that take place in the orchard, a rest area during guided school hikes, and a resource for summer camp programs.

Additionally, the pavilion could be utilized by hiking groups as the former orchard is now home to a thriving meadow which is an ideal location for bird watching.

Tentative drawings have been included at the end of this memorandum.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGE

This initiative refers directly to the HCA Strategic Plan 2014-2018:

- **Strategic Goal #3 – Conservation Area Experience**
 - Maintain and enhance conservation area infrastructure and natural heritage features within the context of approved master plans.
 - Conserve heritage assets on HCA lands in a sustainable manner.
- **Strategic Goal #4 – Education and Environmental Awareness**
 - Maintain and enhance the education programs and infrastructure relating to natural and cultural heritage.

AGENCY COMMENTS

No outside agencies will be affected by the Merrick Cider Shack pavilion conversion.

LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no foreseeable legal implications associated with the Merrick Cider Shack pavilion conversion.

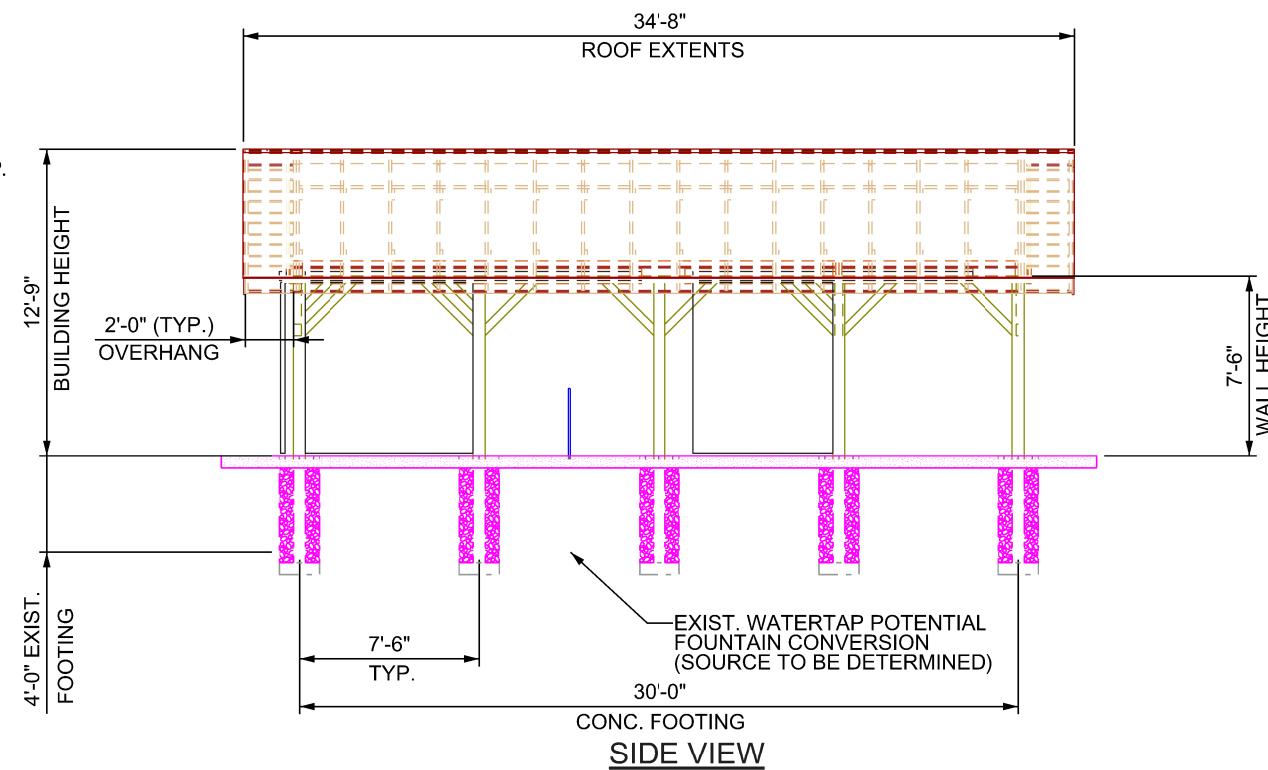
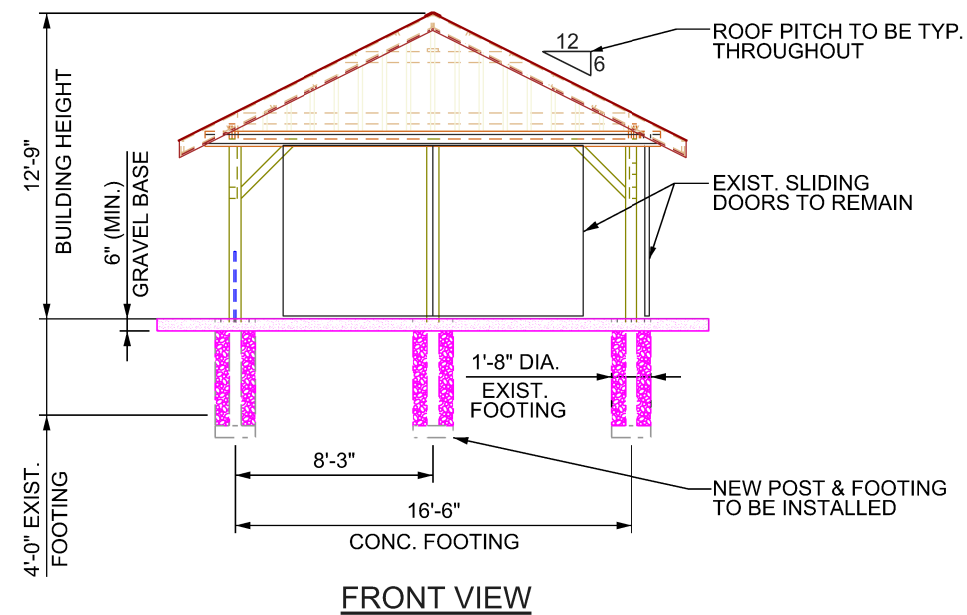
Initial plan estimates show that it will take approximately \$50,000 to convert the shack into a pavilion and make improvements to the area. The entire cost of which is expected to be funded through donations to the Hamilton Conservation Foundation.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the information above, Dundas Valley Conservation Area staff request approval for the project concept from Conservation Advisory Board members.

date: 2017/08/25

- 1) ALL EXTERIOR WALL SIDING TO BE REMOVED. BUILDING TO BE CONVERTED TO OPEN-AIR PAVILLION.
- 2) EXISTING SLIDING DOORS TO REMAIN ON BUILDING.
- 3) CEDAR SHAKE ROOF TO BE REPLACED WITH STEEL.
- 4) MODEL CREATED USING BEST AVAILABLE INFORMATION. CONSTRUCTION CREW TO VERIFY DIMENSIONS PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.
- 5) EXIST. PORCH TO BE REMOVED.
(SEE ORIGINAL DWGS FOR DETAILS)



rev no.	description	date
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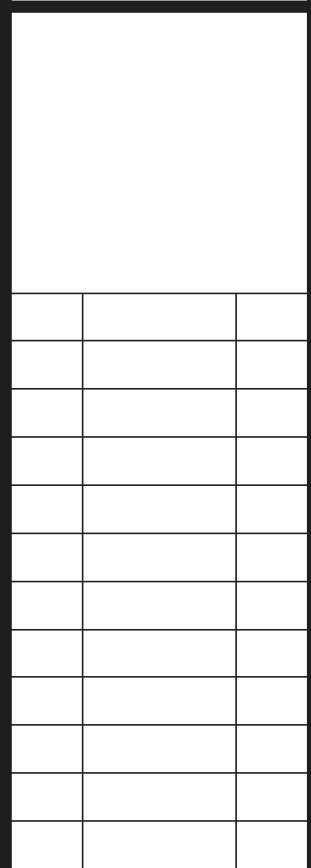


838 Mineral Springs Rd.
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Web: www.conservationhamilton.ca

MERRICK SHACK STRUCTURE CONCEPT

DUNDAS VALLEY

project number	3-1414-00-01
scale	1/8" = 1'-0"
date	2017/08/14
drawn	K.M./N.C.
checked	N.CASTANOS
approved	H.MALL
drawing number	A01



rev no.	description	date
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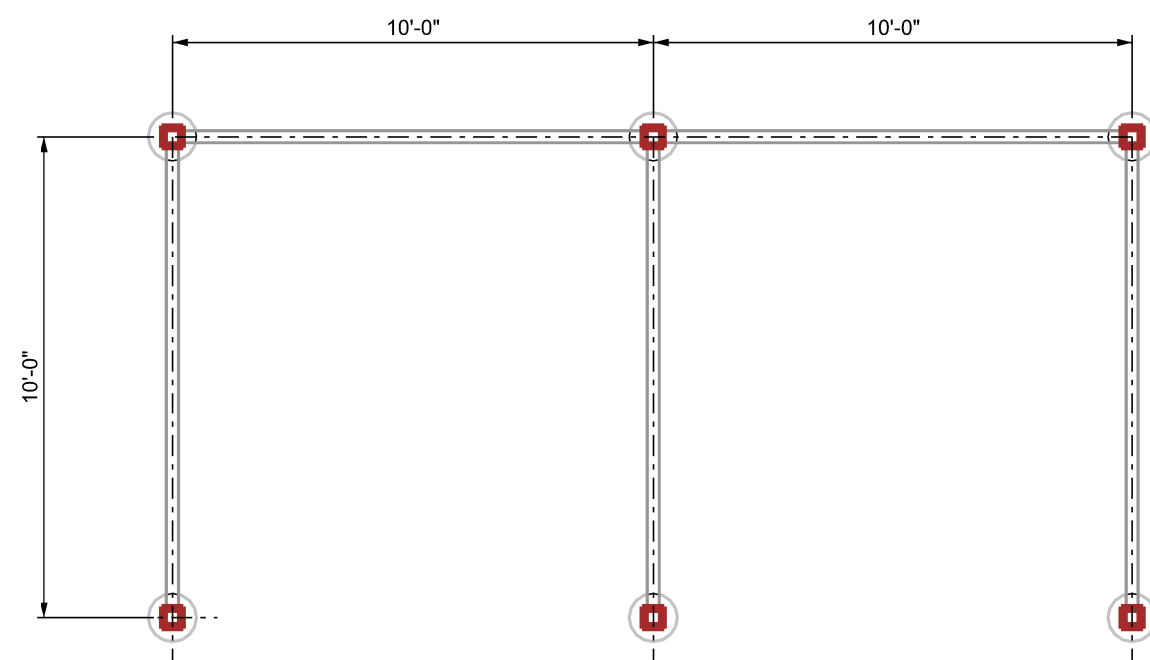


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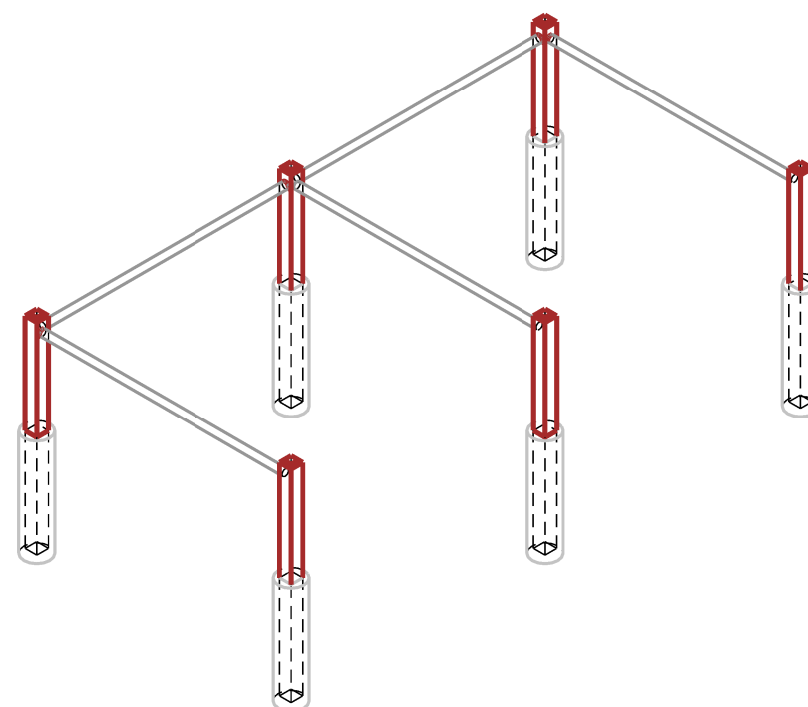
HITCHING RAIL DETAILS

DUNDAS VALLEY C.A.

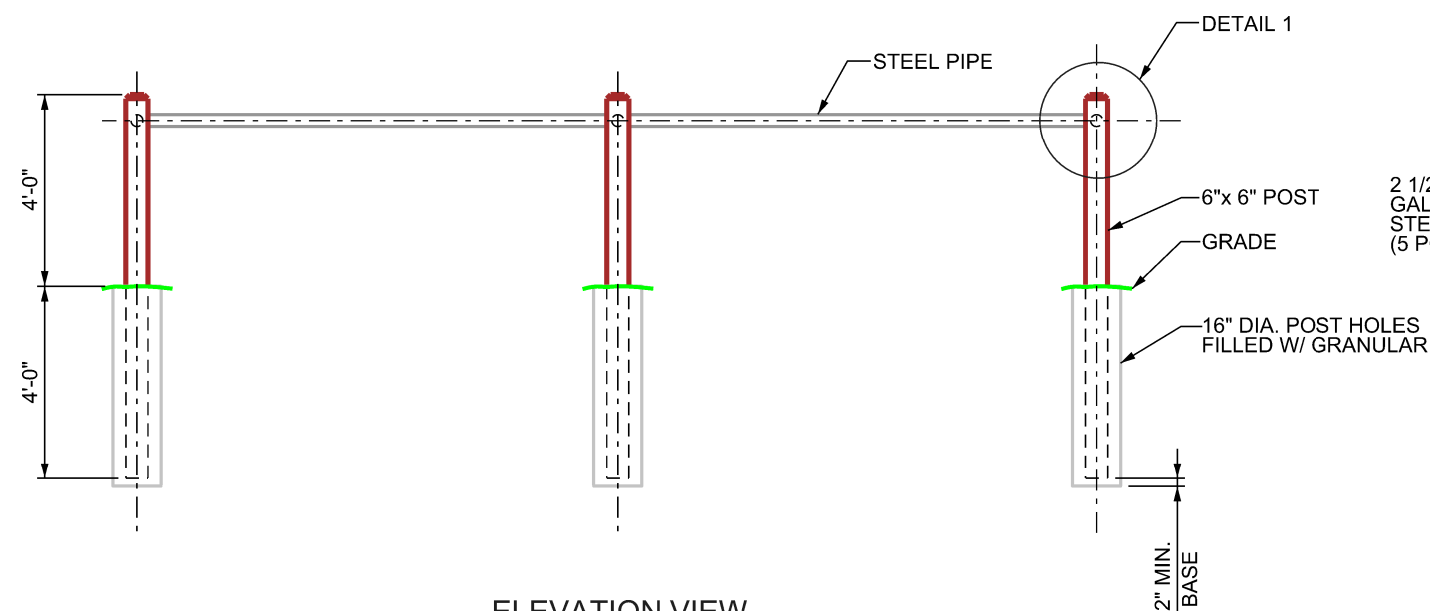
project number	X-XXXX-XX-XX
scale	AS NOTED
date	2017/09/19
drawn	M.H./N.C.
checked	M.HALL
approved	M.HALL
drawing number	A03



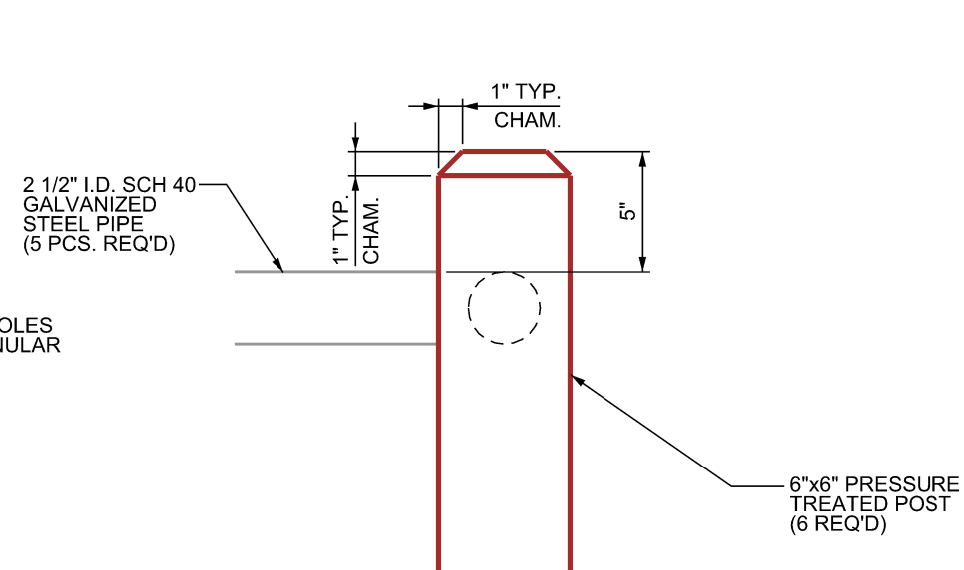
PLAN VIEW
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"



ISOMETRIC VIEW
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"



ELEVATION VIEW
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"



DETAIL 1
SCALE: 1 1/2" = 1'-0"



rev no.	description	date



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MERRICK SHACK SITE PLAN

DUNDAS VALLEY

project number	3-1414-00-01
scale	1/8" = 1'-0"
date	2017/08/14
drawn	K.M/N.C.
checked	N.CASTANDS
approved	H.MALL
drawing number	G01

FOR REVIEW
date: 2017/08/25



Report

TO: Conservation Advisory Board

FROM: Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

RECOMMENDED BY: Gord Costie, Director Conservation Area Services

PREPARED BY: Rondalyn Brown and Peter Lloyd, Westfield Staff

DATE: February 8, 2018

RE: 2017 Artifact Donation Acquisitions Report

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Conservation Advisory Board recommends to the Board of Directors:

THAT the Westfield 2017 Artifact Acquisitions List be approved and the artifacts added to the Westfield Heritage Village and Hamilton Region Conservation Authority collection.

BACKGROUND

Westfield Heritage Village has a comprehensive Collections Management Policy approved by the Hamilton Conservation Board of Directors.

Westfield is a living history museum dedicated to the collection, preservation and presentation of objects associated with the cultural and natural history of Southern Ontario. Westfield maintains an artifact and archival collection consisting of more than 25,000 objects reflecting the social, cultural and material history of the area. This policy affirms the museum's commitment to managing this collection according to current professional standards for preservation, documentation, research and use of the collection.

Objects acquired for the collection will be consistent with the mandate, goals and priorities of the site. Objects collected will normally represent the types of material goods that would have been locally manufactured, routinely available or the product of local activity in Southern Ontario from the period 1790-1925. They must be in a condition suitable for display or research. The decision to accession an artifact in to the Westfield Collection will be made by the Collections Committee, through consultation with the Collections Officer and the Westfield Manager. A list of accessioned items will be provided to the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority at year end. Objects may be acquired by donation, purchase, exchange, or field collection.

The Collections Management Policy states; “The decision to accession an artifact in to the Westfield Collection will be made by the Collections Committee, through consultation with the Collections Officer and the Westfield Manager. A list of accessioned items will be provided to the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority at year end.”

STAFF COMMENT

Westfield staff are diligent about adhering to the very important collections management policies and museum standards to ensure the Hamilton Conservation Authority is managing the artifact collection in a professional manner.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGE

The Westfield Visitor Centre contributes to the achievement of HCA's Strategic Plan 2014-2018, including the following:

- **Strategic Goal #3 – Conservation Area Experience**
 - Strategic Objective – maintain and enhance conservation area infrastructure and natural heritage features within the context of approved master plans
- **Strategic Goal #4 – Education and Environmental Awareness**
 - Strategic Objective – maintain and enhance the education programs and infrastructure relating to natural and cultural heritage
- **Strategic Goal #5 – Organizational Excellence**
 - Strategic Objective – maintain and enhance a corporate philosophy focussed on cost control, sponsorship, revenue generation, sustainable municipal funding and customer service

AGENCY COMMENTS

Not applicable.

LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

In approving this list the Hamilton Conservation Authority assumes liability and responsibility for the care and protection of the artifacts as per the Collections Management Policy.

CONCLUSIONS

Adding the artifacts on this list to the Westfield Heritage Village collection will preserve important pieces of local history and enhance the experience for visitors.

Westfield Heritage Village

Artifact Donations List Complete 2017

The following objects were offered for acceptance into the permanent artifact collection at Westfield Heritage Village:

- 1 pair scissors
- Sled, child's wooden, 1870's
- Child's rocking chair
- Group of 5 green glass kitchen bottles
- Clothes brush
- Magnifying glass
- Leather wallet
- Stocking repair hook
- 'Cat' tea pot
- 'Elephant' tea pot
- Perfume bottle
- Nail clippers
- Copper sauce pan
- Group of 7 small wooden crates
- Wall scone for kerosene lamp
- Knit bed spread
- Two wooden butter stamps
- Two cast sad irons
- 3 press back chairs
- Book, Cooking and Laundry
- Tool Box, assorted antique tools
- Photo, Westbrook Family 1890
- Chinese sideboard
- Personal hygiene and grooming kit
- Glass Nebulizer
- Brass tea kettle
- 4 piece brass desk set
- Package of oil crayons
- Tool chest with plane set
- Brass Suitcase lock
- Child's dress, 1900
- Two powder horns
- Two bullet makers
- Santa Doll, antique



Report

TO: Conservation Advisory Board

FROM: Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

PREPARED BY: Gord Costie, Director of Conservation Area Services

DATE: February 8, 2018

RE: 2018 Shuttle Bus Service - Spencer Gorge Conservation Area

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Conservation Advisory Board recommends to the Board of Directors:

THAT the shuttle bus service for the Spencer Gorge Conservation Area be continued in 2018; and

THAT the shuttle bus service operate on weekends and public holidays beginning Saturday May 12 and running until Sunday October 28, 2018 weather pending; and further

THAT the shuttle bus service base be relocated to Christie Lake Conservation Area.

BACKGROUND

The 63.1 hectare (156 acre) Spencer Gorge/Webster Falls Conservation Area was largely acquired by the Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA) in the 1960's and in 2000, the lands associated with Webster Park, were acquired by the HCA from the Town of Dundas. With this acquisition, the Spencer Gorge Conservation Area was realized.

The Spencer Gorge Conservation Area has traditionally been a very popular conservation area for hiking, nature interpretation and picnics given its proximity to the greater Hamilton/Burlington area and other nearby communities. Over the past number

of years, attendance has increased at the conservation area with people from the greater Toronto Area, Kitchener/Waterloo and the Niagara Region areas visiting the conservation area to view the falls, experience the views from the Dundas Peak and experience the natural beauty of the Spencer Gorge. The estimated attendance in both 2015 and 2016 was in excess of 100,000 and these two years enjoyed spectacular weather. In 2017 attendance was estimated at 95,000 visitors based on paid attendance, wrist bands, pay display parking, and HCA membership sales. It is anticipated that the popularity of this iconic area and high visitation as demonstrated from past years will continue with the growing population in the greater Toronto and Hamilton Area and promotion through social media with visitors posting selfies and photos showcasing the natural beauty of the waterfalls and escarpment vistas.

In February 2016, the Board of Directors approved a pilot Shuttle Bus Service as a direct response to decrease street parking, reduce traffic congestion and improve safety. The shuttle would operate from a private parking lot east of the conservation area with a local Greensville organization (Think Greensville) as the shuttle operator. The pilot operation began in 2017 once assurances were in place for scheduled municipal bylaw enforcement on weekends/holidays within the community.

The Shuttle Bus Service operated from May 13 to October 29, 2017, on weekends and public holidays removing over 16,000 vehicles from the area roads and safely transporting close to 48,000 visitors to the Spencer Gorge Conservation Area attractions – Webster Falls, Tew Falls, and the Dundas Peak.

STAFF COMMENT

Through the operation and completion of this year's pilot shuttle bus operations, staff have had an opportunity to experience all aspects of the service and evaluate what worked appropriately as well as gain perspectives on components that needed to be revisited.

Despite some initial community concern, the shuttle bus service proved to be the most significant and effective operational change in the past five years. HCA and City of Hamilton representatives worked tirelessly in support of this initiative involving Bylaw Enforcement, Hamilton Police Service, and Hamilton Emergency Service, communicating constantly including updating during regular scheduled meetings. The visual and physical improvement to the community as a whole, was the overwhelming sentiment noted. HCA received positive feedback from residents thanking them for returning the area back to a more peaceful and livable place on weekends with shuttle operations and HCA parking lots closed.

One significant aspect of the shuttle service identified as needing refinement involves its base location. With the success of the pilot shuttle operations demonstrating that visitors will park offsite and shuttle to the area and thereby, decrease street parking, reduce traffic congestion and improve safety, it was important that the shuttle be based in an optimal location.

2017 Pilot Private Parking Lot – Key Issues

- Wayfinding to private parking lot
- No turning lanes both east and west bound on Hwy 5
- Site lines identifying parking areas
- Short single lane entry to gatehouse
- Shared parking area with private operator customers
- Small parking lot with no overflow or expansion area
- Lack of washrooms and picnic areas
- Neighbourhood disruption to Mazza Road residents
- Bylaw zoning noncompliance

2018 Christie Lake – Key Attributes

- Superior wayfinding with Christie Lake recognition and current signage
- Turning lanes both east and west bound on Hwy 5
- Dual entry lane of 250 meters to gatehouse
- Dual gatehouse entry terminals
- Dual POS systems, electronic and encrypted transactions
- Largest parking areas – designed gravel and overflow area
- Conservation Area experience with picnic areas, washrooms, waterfront, rentals

Day use admission rates at major HCA Conservation Areas have been harmonized as per the approved 2018 Fee Schedule by the Board of Directors at the December 2017 meeting. The 2018 day entrance to Christie Lake is now equal to fees used at Spencer Gorge for the past two seasons. This harmonized fee strategy in 2018 will allow for uniform transactions at the gate entry while promoting combined visitation to both areas.

Impact on Christie Lake – Special Events

Shuttle Bus operations will potentially impact conservation area operations during peak season use and/or with Special Events such as the Christie Antique and Vintage Show and third party bookings. In response, staff are reviewing a number of options in order to minimize service disruptions to both the shuttle operation and these events as much as possible. One option includes having a dedicated Shuttle Bus exit/entry system to mitigate traffic issues using the Middletown Road gateway when required. A communication plan will also be key to advise visitors that Christie Lake will be extremely busy during peak event times.

Impact of City of Hamilton Bylaw Enforcement

A successful shuttle operation will require ongoing Bylaw Enforcement of No Parking/Stopping within the Greensville vicinity to deter all unauthorized parking. Continued Bylaw Enforcement to shut down unauthorized “pop up” parking lots is also noted as critical to keeping traffic out and away from the hamlet area and eliminate the undue flow of vehicles those lots create.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGE

The initiative refers directly to the HCA Strategic Plan 2014-2018:

- **Strategic Goal #3 – Conservation Area Experience**
 - Strategic Objective – maintain and enhance the financial sustainability of our conservation areas
 - Strategic Objective – develop and explore new revenue generating opportunities.
 - Strategic Objective - Maintain and enhance conservation area infrastructure and natural heritage features within the context of approved master plans.
 - Strategic Objective - Focus marketing activities to attract visitors to conservation areas.

AGENCY COMMENTS

City of Hamilton staff have been formally advised of the HCA proposal to use Christie Lake Conservation Area as the 2018 Shuttle Bus base and have confirmed zoning bylaw compliance.

LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

With the confirmation that there is no zoning issue with this location, there is no legal barrier to moving forward with the recommendations as stated.

From a financial perspective, operating a shuttle system out of Christie Lake compared to utilizing the parking lots at Webster and Tew comes with a cost exceeding \$100,000. However, given that the visitor demand has exceeded the capacity of those lots a shuttle operation is needed and the current recommendation is the most cost effective.

CONCLUSION

Without the actual experience of running a shuttle operation, HCA did not want to risk upsetting regular operations at our largest day use park and hence excluded Christie Lake Conservation Area as a possible site for shuttle parking.

Now that staff have the understanding of how it can work and what stressors there will be on the location, staff are prepared to recommend Christie Lake as the shuttle base for 2018. Christie Lake is an ideal conservation area setting as the start and finish point for visitors. The access from the highway, with its existing turning lanes, provide a safer entry and exit. This area has the largest and most expansive parking opportunities in the HCA Conservation Areas that can accommodate and have been designed for large scale use.



Memorandum

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

RECOMMENDED BY: T. Scott Peck, MCIP, RPP, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer / Director of Watershed Planning & Engineering

PREPARED BY: Jonathan Bastien, Water Resources Engineering

DATE: February 20, 2018

RE: Current Watershed Conditions as of February 20, 2018

CURRENT WATERSHED CONDITIONS

Current Water Levels in Major Area Watercourses – February 20, 2018

Based on data from HCA stream gauges (6), water levels and flows are currently significantly elevated at all of these locations, due to the ongoing rainfall and snowmelt event. Presently there is potential for significant watercourse flooding, and as such HCA staff continue ongoing monitoring and assessment of conditions. To date during this event, HCA engineering staff have issued a Watershed Conditions Statement (Flood Outlook) on Feb 16, as well as a Flood Watch message on Feb 19, to communicate the potential for flooding conditions to the City and public. In addition, site monitoring is being undertaken by HCA staff to confirm watercourse conditions.

Although current Lake Ontario water levels remain above normal (30 cm above average), water levels are 40 cm below the record-highs for this time of year (set in 1952). The Lake Ontario mean daily water level is currently approximately 74.87 m IGLD85. According to International Lake Ontario – St. Lawrence River Board weekly briefing information, the current runoff event is expected to result in levels rising again under most potential water supply scenarios. Though there remains a lot of uncertainty in longer-term projections, given near-average water supply conditions for this time of year, levels of Lake Ontario are expected to remain relatively stable through February, and begin their seasonal rise in March. If average inflows to the lake were to continue,

water levels would approach seasonal average values by the spring, whereas wetter or drier conditions would result in higher or lower levels, respectively. Strong winds and associated wave action may occur in the future, resulting in increased risk of shoreline erosion and localized flooding along the shoreline. Strong winds occurring from the north or east would pose the primary concern for wave-related hazards.

During the period of mid-January to mid-February, there was one significant rainfall / snowmelt event in the HCA watershed, which is currently ongoing.

Recent Precipitation

Current and recent precipitation amounts do not indicate low water conditions.

Based on data from available HCA rain gauges, over the period of November - January the HCA watershed received 205 to 240 mm of rain. Based on Environment Canada Hamilton Airport station rain data, this period received an estimated 235 mm total precipitation. These totals are 90 to 105 percent of long term averages (LTA).

Based on Environment Canada Hamilton Airport station rain data, January received approximately 85 mm of total precipitation. This total is well above the long term averages (LTA). The LTA for January is 63 - 68 mm total precipitation.

Based on Environment Canada Hamilton Airport station rain data, December received approximately 60 mm of total precipitation. This total is well below the long term averages (LTA). The LTA for December is 73 - 75 mm total precipitation.

Based on data from HCA rain gauges (7), over November the HCA watershed received 60 to 95 mm of rain. Based on Environment Canada Hamilton Airport station rain data, November received approximately 90 mm of total precipitation. These totals range from well below normal to well above normal with respect to long term averages (LTA). The LTA for November is 78 mm total precipitation.

Storages in Reservoirs

Based on current reservoir levels at Christie Lake Dam, the reservoir is presently above typical winter operating level, and is at 25 percent of its preferred typical maximum storage capacity.

Based on current reservoir levels at Valens Dam, the reservoir is presently near its typical winter operating level, and is at 40 percent of its preferred typical maximum summer storage capacity.

Soil Conditions

Based on available information, the surface and root-zone soils are expected to be saturated or frozen.

FORECASTED WATERSHED CONDITIONS

The ongoing rainfall and snowmelt event is expected to result in increased potential for watercourse flooding over the next couple of days. There are currently no other significant rainfall events anticipated for the watershed over the next 2 weeks.

Lake Ontario water levels are presently forecasted to remain above normal over the coming month(s).

SYNOPSIS

As of February 20, 2018, an ongoing rainfall and snowmelt event has the potential for significant watercourse flooding, and as such HCA staff continue ongoing monitoring and assessment of conditions.

As of February 20, 2018, no low water response is required.

Also, due to the above normal Lake Ontario water levels, strong winds and associated wave action may occur in the future, resulting in increased risk of shoreline erosion and localized flooding along Hamilton's shoreline.



UPCOMING HCA AND PARTNER EVENTS

Maple Syrup Festival

March 4, 11, 18, & 25

Good Friday March 30

Wednesday, March 14, Thursday, March 15 of March Break

10:00 – 4:00 pm

Westfield Heritage Village

1049 Kirkwall Road, Rockton, ON L0R 1X0

Discover one of Canada's most time-honoured and tasty traditions. Explore historical and modern methods of making of maple syrup from the tree to the table. Families can purchase and enjoy a delicious, reasonably-priced pancake breakfast. For more information visit www.westfieldheritage.ca

Spring Sundays

April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29/May 6, 13, 20, 21, 27/June 3, 10, 24, 12:30 – 4:00 pm

Westfield Heritage Village

1049 Kirkwall Road, Rockton, ON L0R 1X0

Enjoy the arrival of spring in the Village. Bring your own picnic to enjoy in the beautiful, picturesque setting of Westfield. Purchase sweet treats and cool drinks from the General Store.

Easter Weekend Camping

March 30th to April 2nd Valens Lake Conservation Area

1691 Regional Road 97 (R.R.#6), Flamborough, Ontario N1R 5S7

Reserve your campsite to avoid missing out on this busy weekend. For more information, please call Valens Lake at 905-525-2183 or email valens@conservationhamilton.ca

Golden Horseshoe Orienteering Club

April 25, 8:00am - 5:00pm

Christie Lake Conservation Area

1000 Highway 5 West, Dundas, Ontario, L9H 5E2

Mountain Equipment Co-op Race #1

April 28

Dundas Valley Conservation Area

Join us for MEC Burlington Race ONE: Trail Race. This trail run will bring you through the beautiful Dundas Valley and will be starting from the Dundas Valley Trail Center. Run a distance between 3.75k, 9.25k & 11.5k. Challenge yourself and hit the trails. As the distances get longer the trails become more hilly and technical. Visit <http://events.mec.ca> for more information and registration.

Paris to Ancaster Bike Race

April 29

Dundas Valley Conservation Area

Paris to Ancaster Bike Race has taken place for the past twenty-three years over the roughest farm lanes, trails and gravel roads. Combined with unpredictable spring weather and the largest field of riders assembled in Canada, it has become a classic race experience from average riders to Canadian Olympians. Join us on April 29th to become part of the history of this unique race – www.parisancaster.com. Note: sections west of Martin's Road in the Dundas Valley Conservation Area will experience high volume of bike traffic. All hiking trails will remain open to park users.

Spring Fling Disc Golf Tournament

May 5 - 6, 8:00am - 5:00pm

Christie Lake Conservation Area

1000 Highway 5 West, Dundas, Ontario, L9H 5E2

Christie Lake Disc Golf Club Presents The 2018 Spring Fling, sponsored by Dynamic Discs! A GDG \$5K/\$10K event! PDGA "A" Tier Tournament, ODSA Ontario Cup event.