



# Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Thursday, February 6, 2020





# Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, February 6, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

HCA Main Office, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, Ontario

**NOTE: This is the 2020 Annual General Meeting of the Board of Directors.  
Neil McDougall, Secretary-Treasurer, will serve as Acting Chair for the  
purpose of Election of Officers.**

1. **Welcome** – McDougall
2. **Election of Officers** – McDougall
  - 2.1. Appoint Scrutineers
  - 2.2. Election of 2020 Chair
  - 2.3. Election of 2020 Vice-Chair
  - 2.4. Election of Chair to Conservation Advisory Board
  - 2.5. Board Representatives to Budget & Administration Committee
    - Sign up sheet will be distributed at meeting
  - 2.6. Board Representatives to Conservation Advisory Board
    - Sign up sheet will be distributed at meeting
3. **Call to Order for Normal Course of Business** – New Chair
4. **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**
5. **Approval of Agenda**
6. **Delegations**
  - 6.1. Proposed Enbridge Gas Pipeline – Don McLean, Hamilton 350 Committee
7. **Consent Items for Applications, Minutes and Correspondence**
  - 7.1. Applications – Development, Interference with Wetlands, Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses

- 7.2. Approval of Board of Directors Minutes – December 12, 2019
- 7.3. Letter from County of Simcoe to Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks regarding Council recommendation to support the Township of Ramara conservation authority exit clause, dated December 11, 2019
- 7.4. Letter from County of Simcoe to Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) regarding a Council recommendation to support the Township of Springwater resolution regarding the NVCA Levy, dated December 11, 2019
- 7.5. Letter from Township of Huron-Kinloss to Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks regarding Council resolution to support the Township of Ramara conservation authority exit clause resolution, dated December 17, 2019
- 7.6. Letter from City of Quinte West to Premier of Ontario regarding a Council resolution relating to Conservation Authorities, dated January 15, 2020
- 7.7. Email from the Municipality of Dutton Dunwich to various conservation authority and municipal contacts regarding a Council resolution relating to Conservation Authorities, dated January 15, 2020
- 7.8. Letter from Nancy Blackborow to Hamilton Conservation Authority regarding New Enbridge Gas Inc. Pipeline Proposal through Ontario, dated January 23, 2020
- 7.9. Email from Ron and Mary Sealey to Hamilton Conservation Authority regarding Proposed Pipeline through Beverly Swamp, dated January 22, 2020
- 7.10. Email from Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks to Lloyd Ferguson regarding invitation to MECP Multi-stakeholder Engagement Consultations, dated January 23, 2020
- 7.11. Letter from Brian McHattie to Chairperson Lloyd Ferguson and All Members of the HCA Board regarding Encouraging Action on Enbridge Pipeline, dated January 22, 2020

**8. Member Briefing**

**9. Business Arising from the Minutes**

- 9.1. Board direction to Staff October 3, 2019 regarding carbon sequestration analysis of HCA Lands – Verbal Update – Peck
- 9.2. Board direction to Staff October 3, 2019 regarding consultation

with other Conservation Authorities on pipeline proposal review processes – Verbal Update – Peck

9.3. Board direction to Staff October 3, 2019 regarding provision of firewood to Haudenosaunee First Nation – Verbal Update – Costie

## **10. Other Correspondence**

## **11. Reports from Budget & Administration Committee, Conservation Advisory Board, and the Foundation**

11.1. Foundation Chairman's Remarks – Margaret Reid

## **12. Other Staff Reports/Memorandums**

12.1. 2020 Schedule of Meetings – Burnside  
12.2. Voting Representatives to Conservation Ontario – Burnside  
12.3. Appointment of the Auditor – Burnside  
12.4. Retirement of Diane Bloomfield –  
    Manager, Source Water Protection – Burnside  
12.5. Ontario's Special Advisor on Flooding Report – Burnside  
12.6. Tender for Lawn Mower Equipment – McDougall  
12.7. Current Watershed Conditions January 22, 2020 – Bastien  
12.8. Upcoming HCA and Partner Events – Costie

## **13. New Business**

## **14. In-Camera Items for Matters of Law, Personnel and Property**

## **15. Next Meeting – Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.**

## **16. Adjournment**





# Memorandum

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer

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

**PREPARED BY:** Darren Kenny, Watershed Officer

**DATE:** February 6, 2020

**RE:** **Summary Enforcement Report – Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation 161/06 Applications for February 6, 2020**

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HCA Regulation applications approved by staff between the dates of November 29, 2019 and January 22, 2020 are summarized in the following Summary Enforcement Report (SER-1/20).

## RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board of Directors receive this Summary Enforcement Report SER-1/20 as information.





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

January 22, 2020

Development, Interference with Wetlands, and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Applications Report to the Board of Directors of the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority, February 06, 2020

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

**SUMMARY ENFORCEMENT REPORT SER 1/20**

File Number	Date Received	Date Permit Issued	Review Days	Applicant Name	Location	Application Description	Recommendation / Conditions
SC/F,C,A/19/95	18-Nov-19	06-Dec-19	20		1809 and 1817 Rymal Rd E Lot 33, Concession 8 Stoney Creek	Completion of excavation works associated with exploration of Spring 3 and karst conduit for the Central Park Phase III (Midtown) Subdivision development in a regulated area of Upper Davies Creek and the Eramosa Karst.	Approved subject to standard conditions
D/F,C/19/86	15-Oct-19	11-Dec-19	51		336-338 King St W Lot , Concession Dundas	Completion of site servicing and construction of a residential building in a regulated area of Spencer Creek.	Approved subject to standard conditions
H/F,C,A/19/68	22-Aug-19	17-Dec-19	80		1086 West 5th St Lot 16, Concession 8 Hamilton	Completion of minor grading and erosion control works as well as sediment removal from the stormwater management pond associated with William Connell Park in a regulated area of Upper Ottawa Creek.	Approved subject to standard conditions
SC/F,C,A/19/62	01-Aug-19	13-Jan-20	49		43 Windemere Rd Lot 2, Concession BF Stoney Creek	Construction of a new shoreline retaining wall in a regulated area of the Lake Ontario shoreline	Approved subject to standard conditions
SC/F,C,A/19/81	30-Sep-19	16-Jan-20	52		1097 North Service Rd Lot 7, Concession 1 Stoney Creek	Construction of a new shoreline retaining wall in a regulated area of the Lake Ontario shoreline	Approved subject to standard conditions
SC/F,C/19/97	13-Dec-19	17-Jan-20	23		12 Winona Park Road Lot 5, Concession BF Stoney Creek	Construction of a new single family residence and septic system installation in a regulated area of the Lake Ontario shoreline	Approved subject to standard conditions



# Hamilton Region Conservation Authority

## Minutes

### Board of Directors Meeting

**December 12, 2019**

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on Thursday, December 12, 2019, at Woodend Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, Ontario at 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:**

<b>Lloyd Ferguson – in the Chair</b>	<b>Jim Cimba</b>
<b>Dan Bowman</b>	<b>Chad Collins</b>
<b>Brad Clark</b>	<b>Tom Jackson – arrived late</b>
<b>Susan Fielding</b>	<b>Santina Moccio</b>
<b>Cynthia Janzen</b>	<b>Maria Topalovic</b>
<b>Esther Pauls</b>	

**Margaret Reid – Foundation Chair**

**REGRETS:**

**STAFF PRESENT:** Lisa Burnside, Grace Correia, Gord Costie, Matt Hall, Bruce Harschnitz, Neil McDougall, Scott Peck, Jaime Tellier and Nancy Watts

**OTHERS:** Richard Leitner – Media

### 1. Call to Order

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and conveyed possible regrets from Tom Jackson who was coming from another meeting. The Chair also expressed condolences on behalf of the Board to Scott Peck on the passing of his father in November. Scott expressed sincere appreciation for the flowers sent by the members of the Board.

The Chair provided the members with an update regarding his recent attendance at the HCA staff annual general meeting, where he was able to congratulate staff on a great year, and assist with recognizing 9 staff for service awards.

The Chair also advised the members of details of the Conservation Ontario Council meeting on December 9, which was attended by the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks. While no key announcements were made, the Minister thanked all Conservation Authorities for presenting to MECF

staff about their watershed programs and services and funding. The Minister did affirm that programs and services may continue, as long as there is municipal support. The Minister also confirmed that Conservation Authorities can continue with self-generating revenue activities. Therefore, HCA can continue to operate our Conservation Areas and maintain Confederation Beach Park through our management agreement with the City of Hamilton.

There will be further consultation with stakeholders in early 2020. It is anticipated after these regional meetings that the Province will release any updates to the Conservation Authorities Act.

## **2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

There were none.

## **3. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved with no changes.

**BD12,2718**

**MOVED BY: Susan Fielding  
SECONDED BY: Maria Topalovic**

**CARRIED**

**THAT the agenda be approved.**

## **4. Delegations**

There were none.

## **5. Consent Items for Applications, Minutes, and Correspondence**

5.1. Applications – Development, Interference with Wetlands, Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses

5.2. Approval of Board of Directors Minutes – November 7, 2019

5.3. Approved September 19, 2019 Budget & Administration Committee Minutes – for receipt only

5.4. Letters to Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority from Township of Springwater regarding Conservation Authority Levies and Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Levy, dated October 21, 2019

5.5. Letters to Hamilton Conservation Authority from Township of Amaranth regarding Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority levies and Conservation Authority Exit Clauses, dated November 22, 2019

**BD12,2719**

**MOVED BY: Brad Clark**

**SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman**

**THAT the Consent Agenda be approved.**

**CARRIED**

**6. Member Briefing**

There was none.

**7. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was none.

**8. Other Correspondence**

There was none.

**9. Reports from Budget & Administration Committee, Conservation Advisory Board, and the Foundation**

9.1. Budget & Administration Committee – November 21, 2019

Santina Moccio presented the following recommendations from the Budget & Administration Committee.

Resolution Number BA1935 from Budget & Advisory Committee Minutes November 21, 2019 – Mileage Rate

**BD12, 2720**

**MOVED BY: Santina Moccio**

**SECONDED BY: Jim Cimba**

**THAT the Budget and Administration Committee recommends to the Board of Directors:**

**THAT the current mileage rate increase from 53 cents to 54 cents per kilometre effective January 1, 2020.**

**CARRIED**

Resolution Number BA1937 from Budget & Administration Minutes November 21, 2019 – Honorariums and Per Diems

**BD12,2721**

**MOVED BY: Santina Moccio  
SECONDED BY: Esther Pauls**

**THAT the Budget and Administration Committee recommends to the Board of Directors:**

**THAT HCA's honorarium rates for the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors be changed to match those of Conservation Halton and the per diem rate for Board of Directors and Advisory Board and Committee members be increased to \$75.00 per meeting, effective January 1, 2020.**

**NOT CARRIED**

Councillor Clark sought clarification from staff that the motion should be corrected to remove the reference to the per diem rate being applicable per meeting, as the per diem rate applies per day.

**BD12,2722**

**MOVED BY: Jim Cimba  
SECONDED BY: Esther Pauls**

**THAT the motion be corrected to state HCA's honorarium rates for the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors be changed to match those of Conservation Halton and the per diem rate for Board of Directors and Advisory Board and Committee members be increased to \$75.00, effective January 1, 2020.**

**CARRIED**

The amended motion was approved with Santina Moccio abstaining from the vote, after having declared a conflict of interest on the motion as Vice-Chair.

Lloyd Ferguson clarified that City of Hamilton Councillors are not permitted to receive honorariums or per diems. Susan Fielding advised that she was permitted to receive the honorarium and per diems when she was a Councillor with the Township of Puslinch. Policies regarding receipt of honorariums and per diems are specific to member municipalities.

The members directed staff to review the per diems and honorariums annually.

## 9.2. Foundation Chairman's Report

Margaret Reid presented the report.

### **Donations**

We received a total of **\$21,477** in donations in November. They break down as follows:

- \$17,774 for Area of Greatest Need Fund
- \$820 for Westfield Heritage Village
- \$745 for Outdoor Environmental Education
- The remaining \$2,138 came in donations for Land Securement, Stewardship, Tree Planting, Species at Risk, Eramosa Karst, Saltfleet CA and Trail Development.

This brings our total for the fiscal year (Dec 2018 to Nov 2019) to **\$595,107**

### **Events**

The Foundation hosted a fundraising event at The Westdale on November 13<sup>th</sup> featuring Adam Shoalts, Modern Day Explorer. The event drew 293 attendees, raised \$4,743 for the Area of Greatest Need Fund and helped create a significant buzz around the Foundation and the Authority projects and programs we support.

**BD12,2724**

**MOVED BY: Maria Topalovic  
SECONDED BY: Cynthia Janzen**

**THAT the Foundation Chairman's Report be received as information.**

**CARRIED**

## **10. Other Staff Reports/Memorandums**

### 10.1. Current Watershed Conditions as of December 2, 2019

Scott Peck presented a summary of the report, indicating there are currently no riverine flooding concerns or flood or erosion concerns for Lake Ontario. The Lake Ontario water level continues to be 49cm higher than normal for this period. The Christie reservoir water levels are being managed to facilitate repairs to the dam gates. Valens Lake level will be lowered slightly to reach the winter levels.

The members inquired about staff concerns with the Lake Ontario water level. Scott advised that the International Lake Ontario – St. Lawrence River Board continues to manage for lowering the water levels in Lake Ontario, however the time required to reach the average levels is to be determined.

**BD12,2725**

**MOVED BY: Santina Moccio  
SECONDED BY: Susan Fielding**

**THAT the memorandum entitled Current Watershed Conditions as of December 2, 2019 be received as information.**

**CARRIED**

#### 10.2. Upcoming HCA and Partner Events

Gord Costie presented a summary of the memorandum, highlighting that we are coming to the close of another successful year. He added that HCA's Conservation Areas are open all year round and closed only for Christmas Day.

Gord also shared that the annual Haudenosaunee Wildlife and Habitat Authority (HWHA) deer harvest has concluded. No concerns were brought forward to staff. A report with the final number of deer harvested is expected soon. In follow up to earlier staff direction, Gord advised the members that staff have followed up with the HWHA regarding their request to receive firewood from felled trees in the Dundas Valley.

Gord further noted there were no issues with parking on Highway 56 for the first weekend of the 'Twas the Night Before Christmas program at Westfield Heritage Village. The City of Hamilton provided pylons which were effective on preventing traffic on the highway. Staff will continue to implement parking deterrence measures for the remaining weekends of the event.

With regard to the proposed pilot project to transition 'Twas the Night Before Christmas to a ticketed event, Gord advised the members that a staff working group has been assembled. They are currently reviewing options to improve traffic and parking to provide safe and enjoyable events at Westfield. Staff anticipate these measures may be applicable to other HCA facilities/events.



The members inquired about whether or not any members of the public were turned away as a result of the parking measures. Gord advised that to his knowledge no cars had been turned away.

**BD12,2726**

**MOVED BY: Jim Cimba  
SECONDED BY: Maria Topalovic  
THAT the memorandum entitled Upcoming HCA  
and Partner Events be received as information.**

**CARRIED**

## **11. New Business**

There was none.

## **12. In-Camera Items for Matters of Law, Personnel and Property**

**BD12,2727**

**MOVED BY: Susan Fielding  
SECONDED BY: Cynthia Janzen**

**THAT the Board of Directors moves *in camera* for  
matters of law, personnel and property.**

**CARRIED**

### **12.1. Confidential Report – BD/Dec 01-2019**

Scott Peck provided a summary of the report regarding a property matter and answered the members' questions.

**BD12,2728**

**MOVED BY: Dan Bowman  
SECONDED BY: Esther Pauls**

**THAT the confidential report entitled BD/Dec 01-  
2019 be approved and remain in camera.**

**CARRIED**

### **12.2. Confidential Memorandum – BD/Dec 02-2019**

Scott Peck provided a summary of the memorandum regarding a property matter and answered the members' questions.

**BD12,2729****MOVED BY: Brad Clark  
SECONDED BY: Jim Cimba****THAT the confidential memorandum entitled  
BD/Dec 02-2019 be received and remain in camera.****CARRIED****12.3. Confidential Report – BA/Nov 01-2019**

Santina Moccio provided a summary of the report regarding a personnel matter.

**BD12,2730****MOVED BY: Santina Moccio  
SECONDED BY: Susan Fielding****THAT the confidential report entitled BA/Nov 01-  
2019 be approved and remain in camera.****CARRIED****12.4. Confidential Memorandum – BD/Dec 03-2019**

Lloyd Ferguson provided a summary of the memorandum regarding a personnel matter.

**BD12,2731****MOVED BY: Santina Moccio  
SECONDED BY: Susan Fielding****THAT the confidential memorandum entitled  
BD/Dec 03-2019 be received and remain in camera.****CARRIED****BD12,2732****MOVED BY: Maria Topalovic  
SECONDED BY: Cynthia Janzen****THAT the Board of Directors moves out of *in  
camera*.****CARRIED****13. Next Meeting – Thursday, February 6, 2020**

#### **14. Adjournment**

On motion, the meeting adjourned.





December 11, 2019

The Honourable Jeff Yurek  
Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
College Park 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
777 Bay St  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

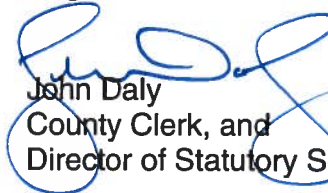
**Re: Conservation Authority Exit Clause**

On behalf of Warden Cornell and County Council, I'm writing to advise that at its meeting on December 4, 2019, Simcoe County Council approved the following recommendation:

"That the resolution from the Township of Ramara regarding conservation authority exit clause, be supported."

A copy of the related correspondence from the Township of Ramara is enclosed for your information. Should you require anything further, please contact the undersigned at extension 1623.

Regards,



John Daly  
County Clerk, and  
Director of Statutory Services

Enclosure/

c.c. Jill Dunlop, MPP  
Doug Downey, MPP  
Andrea Khanjin, MPP  
Caroline Mulrone, MPP  
Jim Wilson, MPP  
Conservation Ontario  
Ontario Conservation Authorities  
Ontario Municipalities





2297 Highway 12,  
PO Box 130  
Brechtin, Ontario L0K 1B0  
p.705-484-5374  
f. 705-484-0441

November 7, 2019

Honourable Jeff Yurek  
Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
College Park 5th Floor  
777 Bay St  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

**Re: Conservation Authority Exit Clause**

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ramara passed the following motion at their regular meeting held October 28, 2019, unanimously by a recorded vote:

WHEREAS the TOWNSHIP OF RAMARA has consistently expressed its view that its watershed conservation authorities are duplicative, financially unaccountable, in conflict with citizens and private property rights;

AND WHEREAS the TOWNSHIP OF RAMARA has encountered the regulatory obstacles to challenge the arbitrary, inefficient, non-transparent, and unsustainable municipal levy forced upon it annually by its watershed conservation authorities;

AND WHEREAS the TOWNSHIP OF RAMARA questions the efficacy and relevance of its watershed conservation authorities' programs and services and their performance in achieving the goals of conservation and environmental stewardship;

AND WHEREAS the TOWNSHIP OF RAMARA finds the current Conservation Authorities Act, 1990, R.S.O. 1990, c. C.27 and its proscribed regulations inconsistent and obsolete;

AND WHEREAS the Minister of Environment, Conservation, and Parks the Honourable Jeff Yurek signaled the province's intent to reconsider and update the Conservation Authorities Act, 1990, R.S.O. 1990, c. C.27 and its proscribed regulations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the TOWNSHIP OF RAMARA support the province's determination that the existing Conservation Authorities Act, 1990, R.S.O. 1990, c. C.27 and its proscribed regulations require review;

[www.ramara.ca](http://www.ramara.ca)


AND THAT the TOWNSHIP OF RAMARA signal to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks of its willingness to participate in all consultations and submissions to the same;

AND THAT further the TOWNSHIP OF RAMARA signal its express desire that an exit clause be provided in any new Conservation Authorities Act to permit municipalities that determine the objects of conservation and environmental stewardship can be provided by alternative governance, programs, and/or services to exist costly and unwarranted conservation authority(ies) jurisdiction(s);

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded the Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks, the Honourable Jeff Yurek, Conservation Ontario, Ontario's thirty-six conservation authorities, and all upper and lower-tier Ontario municipalities.

I trust the above is self-explanatory however if you require further information or clarification, please contact me.

Yours truly,



Jennifer Connor, CMO  
Legislative Services Manager/Clerk

JC/cw

c.c. Jill Dunlop, MPP  
Conservation Ontario  
Ontario Conservation Authorities  
Ontario Municipalities





December 11, 2019

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority  
8195 8<sup>th</sup> Line  
Utopia, ON L0M 1T0

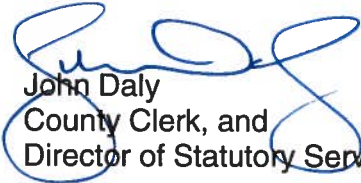
**Re: Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Levy (NVCA)**

On behalf of Warden Cornell and County Council, I'm writing to advise that at its meeting on December 4, 2019, Simcoe County Council approved the following recommendation:

"That the resolution from the Township of Springwater regarding NVCA Levy be supported."

A copy of the related correspondence from the Township of Springwater is enclosed for your information. Should you require anything further, please contact the undersigned at extension 1623.

Regards,

  
John Daly  
County Clerk, and  
Director of Statutory Services

Enclosure/

- c.c. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
- Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
- Jill Dunlop, MPP
- Doug Downey, MPP
- Andrea Khanjin, MPP
- Caroline Mulroney, MPP
- Jim Wilson, MPP
- Conservation Ontario
- Ontario Conservation Authorities
- Ontario Municipalities



October 21, 2019

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority  
8195 8<sup>th</sup> Line  
Utopia ON, L0M 1T0

**RE: Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Levy**

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Please be advised that at its meeting of October 16, 2019, Council of the Township of Springwater passed the following resolution:

**C457-2019**

Moved by: Coughlin  
Seconded by: Moore

Whereas the Township of Springwater, like all municipalities in Ontario must confront fiscal limitations and re-evaluate programs, services, and the financial sustainability of each;

And Whereas the Township of Springwater is a constituent municipality in portions of the watershed under the jurisdiction of the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority and is compelled to remit non-negotiable levy funding to the Authority on an annual basis;

And Whereas the Township of Springwater cannot exercise line-item scrutiny of Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority's budget and operations nor does the Authority itself provide detailed substantiation of the same to its member municipalities like the Township of Springwater;

And Whereas the Township of Springwater must account for all taxpayer funds it expends within its operations and that it forwards to local agencies and boards;

Therefore Be It Resolved That the Township of Springwater requests that the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority provide prior to passage of its 2020 budget the following:

- (1) Its interpretation and understanding of its mandated operations as found in the current Conservation Authorities Act, 1990, R.S.O. 1990, c.C.27 and its prescribed regulations;
- (2) The costs of each as determined under (1);
- (3) Detailed definitions and determinations of what can be characterized as non-mandatory programming and service(s);

(4) The costs of each as determined under (3);

(5) Detailed definitions and determinations of fee-for-service activities of the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority, the revenues they generate as the activities take place within and/or requests originate from geographic area of the Township of Springwater; and

(6) The costs that arise from programs and services enabled through the Memorandum of Understanding with the Severn Sound Environmental Association.

And That this resolution be circulated to Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks, the Honourable Jeff Yurek, the County of Simcoe, all Ontario municipalities, the NVCA and Ontario's other 35 Conservation Authorities, and Conservation Ontario.

**Carried**

Sincerely,



Renée Chaperon  
Clerk  
/cp

cc. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
The County of Simcoe  
Conservation Ontario  
Ontario municipalities  
Ontario Conservation Authorities



The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss

P.O. Box 130  
21 Queen St.  
Ripley, Ontario  
N0G2R0

Phone: (519) 395-3735

Fax: (519) 395-4107

E-mail: [info@huronkinloss.com](mailto:info@huronkinloss.com)

Website: <http://www.huronkinloss.com>

7.5

The Honourable Jeff Yurek  
Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks  
Conservation Ontario,  
College Park 5th Flr, 777 Bay St,  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

December 17, 2019

Dear Minister;

Re: Copy of Resolution #645

Please find below a copy of the resolution adopted by the Township of Huron-Kinloss Council at its December 16, 2019 session supporting the resolution brought forth by the Township of Ramara.

Motion No: 915

Moved by: Ed McGugan

Seconded by: Lillian Abbott

That the Township of Huron-Kinloss support the the Township of Ramara's request for the province to review the existing Conservation Authorities Act, 1990, R.SO.1990, c. C.27 and request that an exit clause be provided in any new Conservation Authorities Act to permit municipalities that determine the objects of conservation and environmental stewardship can be provided by alternative governance, programs, and/or services to costly and FURTHER directs staff to forward a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Jeff Yurek, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks Conservation Ontario, Ontario's thirty-six conservation authorities, and all upper and lower-tier Ontario municipalities.

Carried.

Sincerely,

Emily Dance  
Clerk

c.c Conservation Ontario, Ontario Conservation Authorities, Ontario Municipalities



**CITY OF QUINTE WEST**

*Office of the Mayor  
Jim Harrison*



*P.O. Box 490  
Trenton, Ontario, K8V 5R6*

*TEL: (613) 392-2841  
FAX: (613) 392-5608*

January 15, 2020

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building  
Queen's Park, Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

**RE: Resolution – Conservation Authorities**

Dear Premier Ford:

This letter will serve to advise that at a meeting of City of Quinte West Council held on January 13, 2020 Council passed the following resolution:

Moved by Cassidy  
Seconded by Alyea

Whereas the City of Quinte West has been well served by both the Lower Trent Conservation Authority and the Quinte Conservation Authority and

Whereas we have working service agreements with both Authorities and

Whereas we value the efforts of the Conservation Authorities to monitor floods, to manage source water protection and to ensure the integrity of the watersheds within our municipality and conserve our natural environment and

Whereas the current Provincial government is reviewing the mandate and potential funding to Conservation Authorities

Be it resolved that the City of Quinte West requests that the Provincial Government improve their funding of Conservation Authorities to provide a more stable funding base that would prevent any downloading of costs to municipalities

And further that the Provincial Government will maintain and not diminish the core mandate of Conservation Authorities

And further that we forward this motion to the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Natural Resources, the Premier, the Leaders of all opposition parties, all of our local municipal partners, and AMO to seek their support and concurrence. **Carried**

We trust that you will give favourable consideration to this request.

Sincerely,

CITY OF QUINTE WEST

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Harrison". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Jim Harrison  
Mayor





COUNCIL RESOLUTION



Res: 2020.01. 23

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Moved by: Mike Hentz

Seconded by: Patricia Corneil

**THAT** Conservation Authorities have been protecting people and conserving and restoring watersheds with local communities for over 50 years; and

**THAT** Municipalities must work together to ensure resilient and healthy watersheds for residents; and

**THAT** Conservation Authorities will be important partners in concrete and cost-effective initiatives to address climate change.

**THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Municipality of Dutton Dunwich supports the important role Conservation Authorities provide to local communities in delivering watershed management programs

**AND THAT** this resolution be circulated to all upper and lower-tier municipalities, Conservation Authorities and the Provincial Government (Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks) in Ontario

<u>Recorded Vote</u>	<u>Yeas</u>	<u>Nays</u>
P. Corneil	___	___
A. Drouillard	___	___
K. Loveland	___	___
M. Hentz	___	___
B. Purcell – Mayor	___	___

CARRIED: [Signature]  
Mayor

DEFEATED:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor



January 23, 2020

RE: NEW ENBRIDGE, INC. PIPELINE PROPOSAL THROUGH ONTARIO

I am a resident of Ward 7 and I am deeply disturbed to learn Enbridge Inc. wants to build a “new” 48” fracked gas pipeline across ten kilometres of rural Hamilton between Safari Road and the 8<sup>th</sup> Concession. The proposed pipeline route lies entirely within the protected Greenbelt and sensitive lands such as the Beverly Swamp.

The new pipeline would be entirely inside the Greenbelt; cross city-designated environmentally sensitive areas; provincially significant wetlands; and Hamilton’s largest stream as well as Bronte Creek. It would require blasting bedrock. Enbridge wants a HUGE easement: 28 metres wide PLUS the same amount of land bulldozed “temporarily” for construction. The route also plows through environmentally sensitive lands purchased by the public and held by the Hamilton Conservation Authority to permanently protect them. What is the point of having “protected” lands, when Enbridge is given permission to bulldoze a ten kilometre path through these protected lands?

Also, the City of Hamilton declared a “climate emergency” on March 18, 2019. The whole point of this declaration is to make sure that our City moves forward in ways to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.

The new pipeline means that we are **expanding** instead of **reducing** our reliance on fossil fuels such as the fracked gas that this pipeline would transport from Pennsylvania, piped through Sarnia and across Ontario. New fracked gas pipelines in the US are being successfully blocked by climate and community activists which is the reason for this proposal. This pipeline would certainly not benefit Ontario or Canada.

This is a destructive plan which must be stopped. Because the fracking process features extensive leakage, it may cause as much climate damage as coal. It also permanently contaminates groundwater, pollutes surface waters used in extraction and often results in earthquakes.

Our politicians are elected to serve the greater good of our community. This plan will definitely NOT serve the “greater good” . I urge you to stop this proposal.

Sincerely,

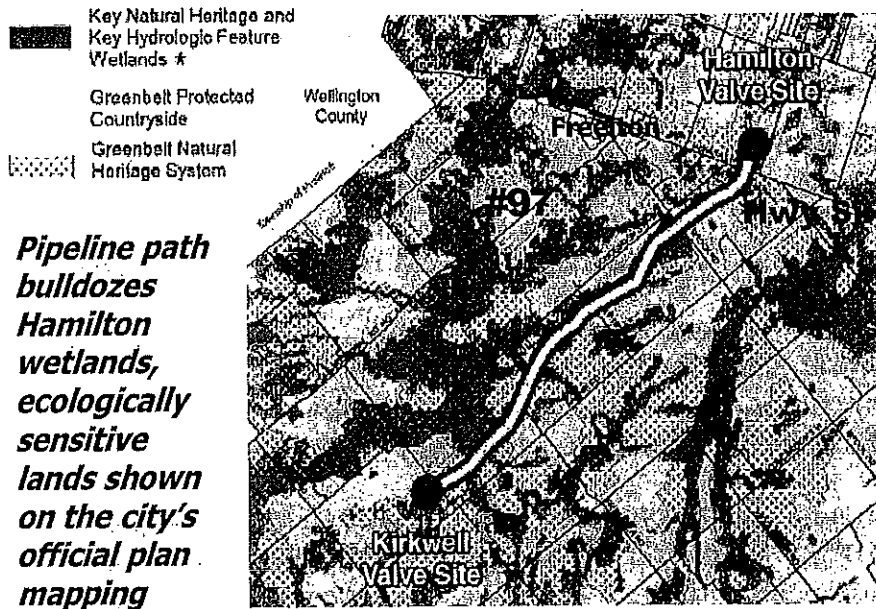


Nancy Blackborow  
Hamilton, ON



# Stop the Climate Wrecking Enbridge Fracked Gas Pipe

The whole world knows we have to cut the use of gas, oil and coal as quickly as possible to minimize catastrophic global heating. That means no more expansion of pipelines of other fossil fuel infrastructure. But North America's largest pipeline company, Enbridge Inc, wants to construct a brand new 48 inch fracked gas pipeline across ten kilometres of rural Hamilton between Safari Rd and the 8th Concession.



***Pipeline path bulldozes Hamilton wetlands, ecologically sensitive lands shown on the city's official plan mapping***

**This new pipe would be entirely inside the Greenbelt; cross city-designated environmentally sensitive areas; provincially significant wetlands; and Hamilton's largest stream as well as Bronte Creek. It would also require blasting bedrock. Enbridge wants a HUGE easement: 28 metres wide PLUS the same amount of land bulldozed**

***Save Hamilton wetlands, streams and ecologically sensitive lands***

"temporarily" for construction. The route also plows through environmentally sensitive lands purchased by the public and held by the Hamilton Conservation Authority to permanently protect them.

**This is a climate wrecking plan that must be stopped.**

It would carry fracked gas from Pennsylvania that is then piped through Sarnia and across Ontario. In its application to the Ontario Energy Board, Enbridge assumes major increases in gas use persisting for the pipeline's multi-decades lifetime. It also argues it can sell a lot of gas to New York and New England states because new fracked gas pipelines in the US are being successfully blocked by climate and community activists.

Because the fracking process features extensive leakage, it may cause as much climate damage as coal. It also permanently contaminates groundwater, pollutes surface waters used in extraction and often results in earthquakes.

The project requires permits from the City of Hamilton, three Conservation Authorities, provincial ministries and the Ontario Energy Board. **Sign the petition!** (<http://chnng.it/S9vsqYBZ>) **And please volunteer to help!**

Humanity is rapidly running out of time to minimize global heating and the droughts, wildfires, extreme weather and other effects that are already wrecking communities, killing people and causing extinctions. The world's climate scientists warned a year ago that we must cut greenhouse gas emissions at least in half by 2030; and since then the warnings have become more frightening. We can't allow the fossil fuel industry to expand its infrastructure and carry on as though the planet don't matter. **It can and must be stopped!**

*Hamilton* **350** *Committee*  
*for Action on Climate Change*

Contact us to help:  
[info@hamilton350.org](mailto:info@hamilton350.org)

**From:** Ron and Mary Sealey <[ronmary.sealey@gmail.com](mailto:ronmary.sealey@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 22, 2020 8:45 PM  
**To:** Nature <[nature@conservationhamilton.ca](mailto:nature@conservationhamilton.ca)>  
**Subject:** Proposed pipeline through Beverly Swamp

Dear Lisa:

We are writing to you because we are alarmed by the proposal by Enbridge which must be approved by the Hamilton Conservation Authority.

We're not sure where the Enbridge pipeline proposal is in the approval process or whom we should contact but we urge you to ensure that it is not approved.

We live just south of the area where Enbridge is proposing to build a new 48-inch fracked gas pipeline. This pipeline would cut across some of Hamilton's most ecologically sensitive lands, including the Beverly Swamp, Spencer Creek, Bronte Creek, and publicly owned properties of the Hamilton Conservation Authority.

We are very concerned first of all about the ecological damage from fracking gas which should remain in the ground, considering the climate crisis caused by the use of fossil fuels. The demand for gas should be decreasing significantly and the fracking process is extremely dangerous for the environment.

Why does gas extracted in Pennsylvania and sold in the Eastern United States have to be conveyed through Canada? One answer is that the government of New York has banned fracking and is opposing the construction of new fossil fuel pipelines carrying fracked gas.

We are also very concerned about the ecological damage from building another pipeline through the area proposed, which is in the Greenbelt. Blasting will be required and a huge swath will be bulldozed.

The damage from this pipeline cannot be justified economically. We must encourage the growth of sustainable energy production and stop subsidizing the fossil fuel industry.

We urge you to fully consider the climatic implications of this pipeline, including the damage and methane emissions from extracting gas by fracking, and the carbon dioxide emissions from burning this fossil fuel, as well as the damage from construction of a pipeline.

Please do not approve this new pipeline.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ron and Mary Sealey  
1142 4th Concession West  
Waterdown ON L8B1K3





**From:** Minister, MECP (MECP) <Minister.MECP@ontario.ca>  
**Sent:** January 23, 2020 1:50 PM  
**To:** Ferguson, Lloyd <Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca>  
**Cc:** Burnside, Lisa <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca>  
**Subject:** Invitation to MECP Multi-stakeholder Engagement Consultations

Dear Mr. Ferguson,

Thank you for taking the time to come and speak to me and my office about your conservation authority and the work that you do. It was a very informative conversation.

I am pleased to invite your conservation authority to participate in our multi-stakeholder engagement consultations to be held on:

**Friday, January 31, 2020 in Barrie, ON**

**Friday, February 7, 2020 in the Peterborough area**

**Friday, February 14, 2020 in the London area.**

We will circulate an agenda for the meetings shortly, including locations and times.

The purpose of these meetings is to engage key stakeholders like municipalities, conservation authorities, development, agricultural, landowner, and environmental and conservation organizations to gather input on how to improve efficiencies, consistency, transparency and oversight of conservation authorities. The involvement of conservation authorities in this initiative creates an opportunity for us to draw on your experiences and insights that are crucial to the development of *Conservation Authorities Act* amendments and associated regulations.

I would like to invite representatives of your choosing from your conservation authority to attend these engagement sessions. Please RSVP with the Great Lakes Office ([glo@ontario.ca](mailto:glo@ontario.ca)) no later than January 27, 2020 to indicate which sessions your conservation authority will attend.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to email [glo@ontario.ca](mailto:glo@ontario.ca).

I look forward to your attendance at these important discussions.

Sincerely,

Jeff Yurek  
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks



Brian McHattie  
67 Grant Watson Drive/P.O. Box 125  
Tobermory, ON N0H 2R0  
brian.mchattie@outlook.com

January 22, 2020

Chairperson Lloyd Ferguson and All Members of the HCA Board  
838 Mineral Springs Road  
Ancaster, Ontario L9G 4X1

**Re: Encouraging Action on Enbridge Pipeline**

Dear Lloyd and HCA Board Members:

Long-time no chat. I hope that you are doing well, and please say hello to my former City Council and HCA Board colleagues. These days, I am working for the Georgian Bay Ontario East Field Unit of Parks Canada, based in Tobermory. As you know this is a beautiful area and I am lucky to live here, but I do still miss Hamilton!

I have largely been successful staying away from Hamilton politics but find myself drawn to provide comment on the proposed Enbridge fracking gas pipeline slated to be built through rural Flamborough and HCA lands in particular, including the environmentally-significant Beverly Swamp, also a Provincially Significant Wetland and the largest wetland left in southern Ontario.

As you know, the method of natural gas production undertaken by fracking is particularly damaging: when this occurs, leakage of the prolific greenhouse gas methane occurs, and sometimes irreversible damage to the water table. It turns out that fracked natural gas is sometimes worse than coal for emissions of greenhouse gas emissions. My information states that the pipeline will require blasting to create the new trench (about 3 metres deep - a 48 inch pipe buried at least 1.2 metres below the surface). It seems to me that blasting adds a lot of problems to the project - impacts to wildlife, potential damage to the underlying rock beyond the trench itself, the drainage effect of a trench and additional cracking, and perhaps a substantial safety issue for the existing pipelines in the area.

Additionally the fact that access to Quebec's hydro electricity is available and far more environmental than fracked natural gas has a role to play in a municipality that has declared a climate emergency.

Finally, it is worth mentioning that piping natural gas through Ontario to access the US eastern seaboard defies anyone's definition of sustainable development. Clearly, the obvious contribution to long-term addition of greenhouse gas emissions built into such infrastructure further makes it important that HCA acts.

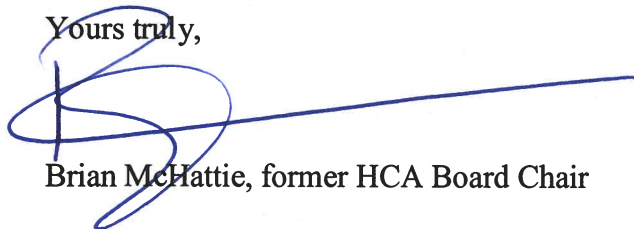
As I understand it, Enbridge requires a 16m easement on HCA lands (in addition to their current 28 m easement). This provides an opportunity for the HCA to say no and do their part to stop this damaging pipeline and contribute to larger efforts to curtail climate change emissions as Canada seeks to meet the Paris Accord targets.

Why should the HCA Board take this position? As you know I have worked along-side the HCA as a Hamilton Naturalists Club (HNC) member since the late 1980s and was part of HNC Boards that contributed substantial funding for the purchase of natural conservation lands including parts of the Beverly Swamp. These were early days for me as conservation activist and I learned at the feet of the great HCA leaders, Ben Vanderbrug and Bruce Duncan. In those days, HCA was a true conservation leader and one need look no further than the protection of the Dundas Valley, Spencer Gorge, Beverly Swamp, and key parts of the Niagara Escarpment. What a legacy!

I know that there will be competing views on the pipeline issue. While I now work in Bruce Peninsula National Park, Fathom Five National Marine Park and other Parks Canada sites, I will always remain passionate about the work of the HCA as exemplified by the great past leaders mentioned above and more recent leaders such as Mark Shurvin and Chris Firth-Eagland. I believe that you as the current HCA Board members can carry on this powerful legacy by taking a stance against the Enbridge pipeline and disallowing the sale of conservation lands for an easement.

Thanks for reading this and hope to see you again in Hamilton or up here on the Saugeen Peninsula.

Yours truly,



Brian McHattie, former HCA Board Chair

c.c., Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer



# Memorandum

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

**DATE:** February 6, 2020

**RE:** 2020 Schedule of Board of Directors Meetings

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## BACKGROUND

The Hamilton Conservation Authority Administrative By-Law under Section C (11) Meeting Procedures –Meeting Schedule and Annual General Meeting, indicates the following:

Subject to the right of the Board to set a different meeting schedule or to change the date of a meeting, and the right of the Chair to call a special meeting, the Board will meet 10 times per year beginning at 7:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of the months of February, March, April, May, June, July, September, October, November and December.

The Annual General Meeting shall be the February meeting each year. The date of the meeting may be adjusted to allow for consideration for timing of municipal elections and corresponding municipal and citizen appointments.

## STAFF COMMENT

Below is the meeting schedule for the 2020 Board of Directors meetings as per the meeting schedule in the Administrative By-laws.

### 2020 Board of Directors Meeting Dates with 7pm start time:

Thursday February 6	Thursday July 2
Thursday March 5	Thursday Sept 3
Thursday April 2	Thursday October 1
Thursday May 7	Thursday November 5
Thursday June 4	Thursday December 3

## **STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGE**

The initiative refers directly to the HCA Strategic Plan 2019 - 2023:

- **Strategic Priority Area – Organizational Excellence**

## **AGENCY COMMENTS**

Not applicable

## **LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable

## **CONCLUSIONS**

The Board of Directors meeting dates for 2020 provide for 10 meetings. The Chair may at his/her pleasure, call for additional meetings as necessary or cancel meetings due to lack of agenda items.



# Report

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

**DATE:** February 6, 2020

**RE:** Appointment of Voting Representatives to Conservation Ontario

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## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

**THAT the following members be appointed to Conservation Ontario for 2020:**

**Designate:** Chair  
**Alternate:** Vice Chair  
**Second Alternate:** Chief Administrative Officer  
**Third Alternate:** Deputy Chief Administrative Officer; and further

**THAT Conservation Ontario be advised of these appointments.**

## BACKGROUND

Conservation Ontario is a non-profit association that represents Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities.

Conservation Ontario is directed by a Council comprised of appointed and elected municipal/citizen officials from the 36 Conservation Authorities Boards of Directors and Conservation Authorities staff. Conservation Ontario's vision and mission outline the basis for its functions:

## VISION

Conservation Ontario will engage Conservation Authorities in matters of common interest and to shape effective policy relating to Conservation Authorities.

## **MISSION**

To promote and continually strengthen a watershed-based conservation coalition in Ontario.

As noted in the HCA Administrative By-Law in Section 11C, Meeting Procedures, the Authority at the Annual General Meeting shall include in its course of business the appointment of the voting delegates to Conservation Ontario.

## **STAFF COMMENT**

The HCA has traditionally designated the Chair as the voting representative to Conservation Ontario with alternates. Conservation Ontario holds quarterly meetings in the Toronto area, at a central location for the 36 conservation authorities. For 2020 the meeting dates have been set for:

- Monday April 6, 2020
- Monday June 22, 2020
- Monday September 28, 2020
- Monday December 14, 2020

## **STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGE**

The initiative refers directly to the HCA Strategic Plan 2019 - 2023:

- **Strategic Priority Area – Organizational Excellence**

## **AGENCY COMMENTS**

Not applicable

## **LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

All Conservation Authorities designate voting delegates to Conservation Ontario. It is recommended that HCA continue with its designation of the Chair with noted alternates.





# Report

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

**RECOMMENDED AND PREPARED BY:** Neil McDougall, Secretary-Treasurer

**DATE:** February 6, 2020

**RE:** Appointment of Auditors

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## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

**THAT the audit firm of Grant Thornton is appointed as the auditors Hamilton Conservation Authority for the year 2020.**

## BACKGROUND

As noted in the HCA Administrative By-Law in Section B, Governance, (7), Appointment of Auditor, the Board of Directors at the Annual General Meeting shall include in its course of business the appointment of the auditor for the upcoming year.

## STAFF COMMENT

Grant Thornton has provided audit services for HCA for over fifteen years. They also carry out the audit of the Hamilton Conservation Foundation and the Hamilton Conservation Employee Pension Plan.

As part of their service, a senior representative of the firm attends the Budget & Administration Committee and/or Board of Directors meeting when the respective year Audited Financial Statement are presented. All services provided last year and in previous years were considered to have been undertaken in a very competent and professional manner.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGE**

The initiative refers directly to the HCA Strategic Plan 2019 - 2023:

- **Strategic Priority Area – Organizational Excellence**

## **AGENCY COMMENTS**

Not applicable

## **LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Total fees paid to Grant Thornton in 2019 were \$42,900.00 There is one year remaining on the existing contract, at the same fee, after which we will conduct an open tender for audit services for 2021 through 2025.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

Grant Thornton has provided excellence service to HCA and are recommended to provide continuing service in 2020.



# Memorandum

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

**DATE:** February 6, 2020

**RE:** Retirement Notice Re: Diane Bloomfield, Manager of Source Water Protection

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Hamilton Conservation Authority works in partnership with Conservation Halton to address the provincial source water protection initiative. The Conservation Halton/Hamilton Conservation Authority source protection team develops and coordinates the source water protection plan for their combined watershed region which includes most of Halton, Hamilton, and parts of Peel and Wellington County.

Diane Bloomfield has formally submitted and announced her retirement on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Her last day of work will be March 31, 2020.

Diane has held the position of Manager of Source Water Protection for the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Region since February, 2009. Over the past eleven years, Diane oversaw the development of watershed characterization and assessment reports for both the Halton and Hamilton Source Protection Regions, as well as the creation and implementation of source protection plans for both regions.

As the lead agency, Conservation Halton will coordinate a recruitment and selection initiative for a new Manager.





# Memorandum

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

**DATE:** February 6, 2020

**RE:** Conservation Ontario's Comment Letter Re: Ontario's Special Advisor on Flooding Report

---

## BACKGROUND

In July 2019, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Minister (MNRF), John Yakabuski, named Doug McNeil as Special Advisor on Flooding and charged him with conducting an independent review of flood management and 2019 flooding events in Ontario.

On November 28, 2019, the results of his work were released in *Ontario's Special Advisor on Flooding Report to the Government: An Independent Review of the 2019 Flood Events in Ontario*.

In his review, the advisor confirmed that 2019's record setting flooding in many parts of the province was caused by a combination of weather conditions, colder than average winter and spring, higher than average snowpack, lack of significant winter thaw, rapid snow melt and significant rain event in the spring.

Advisor McNeil found that nothing pointed to human error or to the negligent operation of water control structures as the cause of the flooding, and that the government and its partners were effective at reducing and mitigating flood risks.

In total, 66 recommendations were made to strengthen flood resiliency in Ontario with 15 directly referencing conservation authorities which really underscores the important work of conservation authorities while also highlighting important areas where the Province can better support conservation authority efforts.

## **STAFF COMMENT**

Conservation Ontario has reviewed the report and submitted the attached letter in regard to the recommendations that were made. In conducting their review and preparing their comments, Conservation Ontario consulted with the conservation authorities. HCA staff have reviewed the report's recommendations and provided input to Conservation Ontario.

Conservation Ontario's comments speak to urging the Province to continue to rely on the experience and expertise of conservation authorities' program to reduce the risk of flooding in Ontario. Additionally, they stress that no further cuts to the CA transfer payments be made and underscores the need for the transfer payments to be reinstated following the 50% funding cut in 2019. Conservation Ontario also notes that current Provincial funding levels around aging flood control infrastructure and for floodplain mapping be enhanced.

HCA undertakes many activities to protect people and property from flooding from our floodplain mapping and flood forecasting, to implementing provincial flood plain policy and regulations related to land-use planning. HCA staff are pleased to see the overall recommendations in the report.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGE**

The initiative refers directly to the HCA Strategic Plan 2019 - 2023:  
*Strategic Priority Area – Organizational Excellence and Water Management*

## **AGENCY COMMENTS**

Not Applicable

## **LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Not Applicable

## **CONCLUSIONS**

The Flood Advisor's report recognizes the value of the conservation authority model. HCA looks forward to working with Conservation Ontario and the Province as the report and recommendations continued to be reviewed and implemented.



January 17, 2020

The Honourable John Yakabuski  
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry  
Suite 6630, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Whitney Block  
99 Wellesley Street West  
Toronto, ON, M7A 1W3

**RE: Ontario's Special Advisor on Flooding Report to Government: An Independent Review of the 2019 Flood Events in Ontario**

Dear Minister Yakabuski,

I am writing to congratulate you on the speed with which you made the public release of "Ontario's Special Advisor on Flooding Report to Government: An Independent Review of the 2019 Flood Events in Ontario" (Flood Advisor Report). We appreciate the recognition in the report that flood management is a shared responsibility, and that the watershed approach and the conservation authority model help to reduce flood risk very effectively within this collaborative framework. We also recognize that under a changing climate, there is always room for improvement.

While only 15 of the 66 recommendations directly reference conservation authorities, many more relate to our collaborations and/or business relationships with landowners, all three levels of government and, more specifically, our close working relationship with your Ministry.

Conservation authorities are considered to be the 'boots on the ground' agencies implementing watershed management programs which help to prevent and reduce risk, monitor conditions and warn of flood events. They also work closely with others during and after actual events. As such, we feel their long-time local expertise provides unique insights and we have worked with them to undertake a review of the Flood Advisor's Report. We look forward to sharing this more detailed information with your staff.

We do have a few specific comments which we would like to share with you.

**More flood events and higher damage costs are in our future and it makes good business sense for the Province to continue to rely on the conservation authorities' experience, expertise and cost effective programs to reduce the risk of flooding in Ontario.**

- We strongly support the Flood Advisor's recommendation (#66) for no further cuts to the Province's flood program and we interpret this to include no further cuts to CA Transfer Payments. To be able to support the Province and other partners effectively, conservation authorities need their 2018 transfer payments re-instated and, ideally, increased to address the real and escalating costs of managing flooding. This would help to meet the Province's larger agenda of 'building healthier and safer communities'. And, it helps to reduce costly damages and business disruptions.

- Conservation authorities already work in well-established local and provincial partnerships to reduce flood risk and this collaboration should be supported.

**Current provincial funding levels do not adequately address the concerns around aging flood control infrastructure or outdated floodplain mapping, required to build additional resilience against climate change.**

- Aging infrastructure and floodplain mapping have been historically underfunded by provincial transfer payments and many smaller and mid-range conservation authorities with more rural municipalities cannot address these within current budgets. Budget pressures are also felt by larger conservation authorities with high risk flood-prone areas which require more complex solutions.
- Provincial investment in floodplain mapping matched with municipal and federal investments would greatly accelerate Ontario's ability to adapt and be resilient to climate change. Lack of investment in both floodplain mapping and flood control infrastructure is hurting Ontario's economy and it raises significant concern with regard to increasing risk to public safety and increased liability to the Province, municipalities and conservation authorities.

The conservation authorities have years of experience in improving Ontario's resilience to flooding and it should be considered a cornerstone of any provincial climate change actions and worthy of provincial investment.

Thank you again for the timely release of the Flood Advisor's Report and we appreciate the challenge the Province faces moving forward to address the recommendations. Conservation authorities want to continue to collaborate with the Province in order to protect the public's safety and prevent future costly impacts.

Sincerely,



Wayne Emmerson  
Chair, Conservation Ontario

c.c.

Hon. Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)

Hon. Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance (FIN)

Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH)

Hon. Laurie Scott, Minister of Infrastructure (MIN)

Hon. Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General

Jason Redlarski, Provincial Emergency Operations

Conservation Ontario  
120 Bayview Parkway, Newmarket ON L3Y 3W3  
Tel: 905.895.0716 Email: [info@conservationontario.ca](mailto:info@conservationontario.ca)  
[www.conservationontario.ca](http://www.conservationontario.ca)





# Report

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

**RECOMMENDED BY:** Neil McDougall, Secretary-Treasurer

**PREPARED BY:** Robert Saccomano, Fleet & Forestry Coordinator

**DATE:** February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**RE:** Tender for Lawn Mower Equipment

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

**THAT the HCA staff recommends to the Board of Directors:**

**THAT the Board of Directors award the purchase of nine (9) Zero Turn lawn mowers to Galer Farm Equipment LTD for the amount totaling \$113,894 (includes applicable taxes).**

## BACKGROUND

The HCA maintains the grounds at its conservation areas (Christie Lake, Confederation Beach Park, Dundas Valley, Fifty Point, Valens Lake and Westfield Heritage Village) through a combination of tractor pulled large mowers, midsize ride-on self propelled mowers and smaller manual push mowers. The central fleet department regularly replaces the self-propelled ride-on lawn mowing units at an appropriate time and engine life cycle which is usually 10 to 12 years or 2,200 hours. The nine (9) current units in inventory are a mix of five (5) John Deere, two (2) Toro Z Master and two (2) Exmarks. The average year of the units is 11 years with an average engine hour of 2,016 hours per unit.

Having a mix of units from different manufacturers has caused an inflated inventory of replacement parts and a reduction in staff efficiency when repairing the units. Replacing the existing units with the same make and model will streamline the inventory required by Fleet mechanics to perform the necessary repairs while reducing the amount of unit down time required.

On October 31, 2019 the HCA Fleet & Forestry Coordinator issued an RFQ to area equipment dealerships for replacement of all units simultaneously. Quotation packages were received on November 27, 2019.

**STAFF COMMENT**

Specifications were established with the assistance of conservation area staff and then the recommended specifications were sent in the RFQ packages to the area dealerships.

The main criteria considered were:

- Fuel efficiency
- EFI (Electronic Fuel Injection)
- Operator comfort, and
- Amount of noise the machine produced

A demonstration day was held at Christie Lake Conservation Area where all vendors had the opportunity to show their product and conservation staff were afforded the opportunity to test the products under real conditions.

A summary of the public RFQ is as follows:

Company	Total Price for all 9 Units (Inc. Taxes)	Anticipated Delivery Date	Brands
Galer Farm Equipment Limited	\$113,893.83	April 2020	Kubota
Crossroads Equipment	\$116,890.29	April 2020	John Deere
Dickson Equipment	\$126,721.54	April 2020	Toro
Windmill Power Equipment	\$151,533.00	March 2020	Exmarks

The pricing/quotations for the nine (9) units are based upon the award of quotation subject to approval of the Board of Directors

Staff recommends purchasing the low bid of nine (9) zero turn units from Galer Farm Equipment Limited.

**STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGE**

The initiative refers directly to the HCA Strategic Plan 2019-2023:

- Organization Excellence
  - Continue to update and streamline operational policies and leverage emerging technology to enhance business service delivery

## **AGENCY COMMENTS**

Not applicable

## **LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

From a financial perspective, the funding has been allocated within the 2019 and 2020 fleet budget and the operating and long-term capital replacement costs are recouped through Christie Lake, Confederation Beach Park, Dundas Valley, Fifty Point, Valens Lake, and Westfield Heritage Village operational budget.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

It is recommended that this contract be awarded to the low bidder, Galer Farm Equipment Limited. The priced units meet all HCA recommended specifications.





# 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 & Engineering

**PREPARED BY:** Jonathan Bastien, Water Resources Engineering

**DATE:** February 6, 2020

**RE:** Current Watershed Conditions as of January 22, 2020

## **CURRENT WATERSHED CONDITIONS – January 22, 2020**

### Current Water Levels in Major Area Watercourses

Water levels and flows are currently near baseflows in Ancaster Creek at Wilson Street, Redhill Creek at Barton Street, and Stoney Creek at Queenston Road.

Conditions are slightly elevated at Upper Spencer Creek at Safari Road and Middle Spencer Creek at Highway 5, due to remnant runoff from the significant rain event on January 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.

Water levels and flows in Lower Spencer Creek at Market Street are also presently slightly elevated, as a result of Christie Lake dam outflows.

That said, there are currently no observations, reports, or expectations of significant watercourse flooding or significant public safety concerns.

### Current Lake Ontario Water Levels

Currently, the Lake Ontario mean daily water level is approximately 75.08 m IGLD85. This is about 49 cm above average for this time of year, and about 84 cm below last year's historic peak level of 75.92 m (last recorded on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019). There are currently no observations, reports, or expectations of shoreline flooding or active significant shoreline erosion at this time.

## Current Storages in HCA Reservoirs

The reservoir is presently slightly below the typical winter operating levels of 765.0 to 765.5 ft. The reservoir is at about 7 percent of its preferred maximum storage capacity (corresponding to a water level of 773 ft). Dam outflows are being routinely adjusted to maintain reservoir levels slightly below typical winter levels, in order to allow for ongoing corrosion and lead paint removal on the two radial gates.

Based on current reservoir levels at Valens Dam (about 274.70 m), the reservoir is presently slightly above typical winter operating levels (274.15 to 274.30 m) and is at about 66 percent of its preferred maximum storage capacity (corresponding to a water level of 275.5 m).

## Current Soil Conditions

The surface and root-zone soils are expected to be moist to wet, and frozen.

## **RECENT STORM EVENTS**

During the period of December 2, 2019 to now, there was 1 significant rain storm event (January 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>) that resulted in watercourse flooding.

### Watercourse Flooding

#### *Rain Storm January 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>*

The HCA watershed received between 50 and 65 mm of rain on Saturday January 11<sup>th</sup> and Sunday January 12<sup>th</sup>, based on HCA rain gauge data. In addition, the remaining snowpack melted over the 5 days prior to this rain storm. This resulted in significant runoff to area watercourses.

Based on data from HCA's stream gauges, maximum flows and water levels occurred between January 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. Water levels and flows in area watercourses were significantly elevated, with localized flooding of low-lying areas that typically flood during higher water levels.

Flooding of Middletown Road occurred at the crossing of Middle Spencer Creek. The road was flooded from early afternoon on January 12<sup>th</sup> until early morning of January 15<sup>th</sup>. The maximum flooding depth was estimated to be approximately 0.5 m. This road flooding was caused by the elevated levels in Christie Lake reservoir. Christie Lake reservoir levels rose significantly in response to the considerable rain received.

There were no other reports or observations of significant watercourse flooding.

Prior, during and after this storm event, HCA staff closely monitored conditions and remained focussed on balancing the impacts to flooding & erosion downstream in Dundas with increases to Christie Lake reservoir levels. HCA staff monitored for additional reports from the media and public, and undertook site monitoring (on Monday January 13 during the peak runoff from the storm) to confirm flooding conditions.

Furthermore, HCA staff issued the following messages to communicate the potential watercourse flooding conditions to the City, emergency service and the media:

- Flood Watch on January 8<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm
- Flood Warning – Middle Spencer Creek on January 13<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 am
- Termination of Flood Warning – Middle Spencer Creek on January 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 am
- Watershed Conditions Statement – Water Safety on January 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am
- Termination of Watershed Conditions Statement – Water Safety on January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:15 pm

This communication included advising of the potential risk of significant watercourse flooding about 2.5 days prior to the storm event.

Due to the ongoing corrosion and lead paint removal on the two radial gates, typical winter-time gate settings were not possible at the time of the storm event. Had the dam been at typical winter-time gate settings during this storm event, then it is expected that significantly larger flows and erosive forces would have occurred in Lower Spencer Creek through Dundas. It is also expected that the storm would have resulted in lower Christie Lake reservoir levels and that Middletown Road may not have flooded temporarily.

However, late fall and early winter were deemed to be the best time to proceed with this project, as the reservoir-side of the radial gates was more easily accessible during this period of time.



PHOTO 1 – MIDDLETOWN ROAD – January 13, 2020 at 9:30 am



PHOTO 2 – MIDDLETOWN ROAD – January 13, 2020 at 9:30 am



PHOTO 2 – MIDDLETOWN ROAD – January 13, 2020 at 10:00 am



## **RECENT PRECIPITATION SUMMARY**

The total precipitation amounts received in the HCA watershed over the last few months are considered average to above average, and do not indicate drought conditions.

## **FORECASTED WATERSHED CONDITIONS**

### Lake Ontario Shoreline Erosion / Flooding

There is currently no significant Lake Ontario shoreline erosion / flooding anticipated within the watershed over the next 5 days.

According to International Lake Ontario – St. Lawrence River Board information, Lake Ontario water levels are expected to continue its recent rise this coming week as inflows remain high and outflows continue to be adjusted according to ice conditions in the critical areas of the St. Lawrence River. It is likely that Lake Ontario will continue its seasonal rise as we head further into winter. While there is considerably uncertainty longer-term, with continuing high inflows from Lake Erie, this will ensure water levels of Lake Ontario remain near seasonal highs for at least the next several weeks.

### Watercourse Flooding

There is currently one significant rainfall (20 - 25 mm on January 24) anticipated for the watershed over the next 2 weeks. HCA staff continue to monitor conditions and forecasts closely.

Resultant water levels and flows from the forecasted rain are not expected to pose significant watercourse flooding concerns.

## **SYNOPSIS**

As of January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019, there are no expectations of significant watercourse flooding, Lake Ontario shoreline erosion / flooding, or watershed drought.



## Upcoming 2020 HCA & Partner Events

### **Bruce Trail New Year's Day Hike**

**January 1**

#### **Dundas Valley Conservation Area**

**650 Governor's Road, Dundas, Ontario L9H 5E3**

Start your New Year right with a hike with the Iroquois Bruce Trail Club. Dundas Valley Trail Centre – 650 Governor's Rd. Dundas Bring your family, friends, and neighbours for a free, enjoyable winter afternoon walk with the Iroquois Bruce Trail Club. All walks will start at 12:30 p.m. We will be holding one-hour walks and a two hour walk. After the walks, join us in the Trail Centre for warm drinks, snacks and a chance to chat with others and wish them a Happy New Year. Door prizes after the two hour hike and the one hour hike. Please note: Parking fee in effect (\$10 per car/Seniors \$8) or a Conservation Area Pass if you have one.

### **Winter Camping Begins**

**January 1**

#### **Valens Lake Conservation Area**

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

### **Ice Fishing Derby**

**February 15**

#### **Valens Lake Conservation Area**

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

Ice Fishing Derby for bluegill and crappie species. From sunrise until 2 p.m. Lots of prizes to be won for the top number of catches. For more information, please call Valens Lake at 905-525-2183 or email [valens@conservationhamilton.ca](mailto:valens@conservationhamilton.ca)

### **Sundays at Westfield**

**12:30 – 4:00 pm**

#### **Westfield Heritage Village**

**1049 Kirkwall Road, Rockton, ON L0R 1X0**

Every Sunday and public holiday from March to the end of October you can immerse yourself in Westfield's unique historic setting. Authentically costumed volunteers will take you back to earlier times and places through fun and educational demonstrations and activities. Westfield has many historical buildings to visit, including log homes, a

one room schoolhouse, railway station, print shop, inn and blacksmith's shop. Step up to the counter at the General Store for sweet treats and stop by the Gift Shop for unique finds. You can also enjoy Westfield's trails and natural areas, set on 500 beautiful acres. For more information visit [www.westfieldheritage.ca](http://www.westfieldheritage.ca)

**Maple Syrup Festival**

**March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29**

**Wednesday, March 18, Thursday, March 19 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](http://www.westfieldheritage.ca)