



Conservation Advisory Board Meeting Agenda

Thursday, February 13, 2020



Notice of Meeting Conservation Advisory Board

Thursday, February 13, 2020

4:00 p.m.

at HCA Main Office, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, ON

1. Chairman's Remarks – Chair

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

3. Delegations

4. Approval of Agenda

5. Member Briefing

6. Chairman's Report on Board of Directors Actions – Chair

CA 1935 Westfield Christmas 2020 Ticket Purchase Pilot
CA 1936 Visitor Management & Vehicle Parking Review

7. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

7.1. Minutes – Conservation Advisory Board (October 10, 2019) – Chair

8. Business Arising from the Minutes

9. Staff Reports/Memorandums

9.1. Visitor Safety at Dundas Peak	– Hall
9.2. Westfield 2020 Accession and Deaccession List	– Lloyd
9.3. Valens Cabin – Verbal Update	– Hall
9.4. Conservation Area Attendance - Verbal Update	– Harschnitz
9.5. Upcoming HCA & Partner Events	– Costie

10. New Business

11. Next Meeting – Thursday, April 9, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

12. Adjournment

HAMILTON CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Conservation Advisory Board

MINUTES

October 10, 2019

Minutes of the Conservation Advisory Board meeting held on Thursday, October 10, 2019 at HCA's Main office Administration Building commencing at 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Wayne Terryberry- in the Chair
 Lydia Cartlidge, Joanne Di Maio
 Lloyd Ferguson, Cynthia Janzen
 Cheryl Larocque, Duke O'Sullivan

REGRETS: John Barkovic, John Shaw, Maria Topalovic

STAFF PRESENT: Rondalyn Brown, Lisa Burnside, Gord Costie, Matt Hall, Bruce Harschnitz, Christina Jager, Lesley McDonell, Neil McDougall, Colin Oaks, Mike Stone, Jaime Tellier, Nancy Watts – HCA Staff

OTHERS: Media – Richard Leitner

1. Chairman's Remarks

Wayne Terryberry welcomed everyone to the meeting, wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

There were none.

3. Delegations

There were none.

4. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with no changes

CA1933**MOVED BY: Joanne Di Maio****SECONDED BY: Cynthia Janzen****THAT the agenda be approved.****CARRIED****5. Member Briefing****5.1. Ecological Monitoring Program**

Lesley McDonell and Colin Oaks provided the members with a briefing on HCA's aquatic and terrestrial ecological monitoring programs, highlighting the monitoring of fish, aquatic insects, plant biodiversity and distribution and invasive species as indicators of the health of the natural features of our watershed. They shared that monitoring also helps with evaluating past ecological restoration projects and planning for future projects.

Colin highlighted the progression of the restored Christie Ponds into watercourses and wetlands, results of Lower Spencer Creek in-stream habitat improvements, as well as planning for habitat improvements to the pond at Fifty Point Conservation Area.

Lesley presented results of forest regeneration surveys in harvested plantation areas and Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Network (EMAN) plots, as well as deer browse surveys and deer exclosures. Results of note included that invasive species may need to be managed in some of the harvested plantation areas and a more even distribution of forest understory regeneration in the Dundas Valley and at Iroquoia Heights Conservation Area. Details of the method and results of deer population surveys for these areas, completed by helicopter in partnership with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, were also shared. Lesley commented on a correlation between the regenerating forest understory and changes in the deer population between 2015 and 2019. Lesley also reviewed the monitoring program and results of Gypsy moth surveys conducted to monitor impacts to mature trees in the Dundas Valley. A bio-pesticide spray program has been successful in mitigating impacts of gypsy moths where applied in severely infested areas.

The members inquired about the need for an additional spray program in the Spring. Lesley indicated that staff do anticipate another spraying in the Spring, but the need will be confirmed following the results of the upcoming winter monitoring.

The members also inquired about the correlation between the deer population and the annual deer harvest. Lesley advised a number of factors are likely contributing to the reduced number of deer, including less feeding of deer, particularly at Iroquoia Heights, road mortality on the 403, recent harsh winters and coyote predation.

Lesley added the decreased deer population is of benefit to the forest, as it allows for regeneration.

Lisa added that the annual agreement with the HWWA is in regard to honouring treaty rights. A very small number of deer are taken each year. Staff are not concerned about the population change.

The members inquired about monitoring in the Red Hill Creek watershed. Colin advised there are aquatic monitoring sites in Red Hill Creek. Lesley noted that there are no terrestrial monitoring sites in the Red Hill Valley, as monitoring is typically completed on HCA owned lands. It was noted that a forthcoming proposed monitoring program for the Red Hill Parkway includes assistance from HCA for ecological monitoring.

Wayne thanked Lesley and Colin for their very informative presentation and the work undertaken.

6. Chairman's Report on Board of Directors Actions

The Chair reported that the recommendation to approve the Cootes to Escarpment Update and Management Plan Report was approved by the Board of Directors at the September 5, 2019 meeting.

7. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

7.1. Minutes – Conservation Advisory Board (August 8, 2019)

**CA1934 MOVED BY: Duke O'Sullivan
 SECONDED BY: Cheryl Larocque**

**THAT the minutes of the August 8, 2019 Conservation Areas
Advisory Board meeting be approved.**

CARRIED

8. Business Arising from the Minutes

8.1. Westfield Admission Tickets for Major Special Events

Rondalyn and Christina presented a summary of the revised report, highlighting challenges with safety and visitor experience related to crowd size and parking. The initial proposal has been revised to indicate the initial implementation of the system would be a pilot, only applying to the 2020 Christmas program. The revised proposal

also includes, monitoring, evaluation and reporting on the pilot to the Conservation Advisory Board, for a discussion regarding continuation or expansion of the system.

Rondalyn noted that optimization of the main parking lot has added 20 spots which has assisted with alleviating some of the parking issues. It was noted that planned additional improvements for volunteer parking will also help.

The members inquired about the Christmas 2020 date. Staff advised that the one-year lead time allows for the marketing and communications tools to be as effective as possible. The year also provides sufficient time to purchase and deploy the on-line ticketing system.

There was discussion regarding attempted front gate ticket purchases when sold out and potential customer disappointment. Staff advised that there are currently many people are turning away. Staff also shared having received some requests for reservations or advance tickets to ensure admission.

Lisa added that the 2020 implementation date allows for communication of the changes to customers at the upcoming 2019 Christmas events to try to minimize the potential for customers being turned away in the future.

The members also discussed an observed trend in the industry toward reservation-based ticket systems.

Wayne thanked all staff for coming back with additional management options. He is hopeful the pilot will be a success.

**CA1935 MOVED BY: Cynthia Janzen
 SECONDED BY: Lydia Cartlidge**

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

THAT Westfield initiate a pilot program for date specific ticket sales for the 2020 Christmas evening program and further,

THAT staff evaluate the effectiveness of the pilot and report back to CAB regarding its ongoing potential.

CARRIED

9. Staff Reports/Memorandums

9.1. Visitor Management & Vehicle Parking Review

Gord Costie and Matt Hall presented a summary of the report. Matt discussed planning for proposed capital projects to assist with implementing the recommendations in the report. Implementation of the recommendations will include possible parking lot expansions and optimization of several existing parking lots. Enhancements to parking facilities at Westfield Heritage Village are currently underway per the recently completed master plan. Gord and Matt highlighted that the marketing strategy will be instrumental in achieving the desired results of the initiative.

Lloyd Ferguson congratulated staff on efforts to address issues arising from the popularity of our Conservation Areas. He suggested inquiring about recycled milled asphalt from the Hamilton International Airport for the Tiffany Falls Conservation Areas parking improvements. He also suggested staff meet with City staff to discuss a lane closure on Wilson Street to accommodate Tiffany Falls parking.

NEC approvals required for implementing parking lot improvements were discussed. There was also discussion regarding HSR access and challenges to HCA areas. It was suggested that details for accessing HCA lands using HSR, be posted on the website.

There was also a suggestion to consider operating a guided waterfall tour bus for potential revenue generation beyond Spencer Gorge. Staff responded that full-size bus access is problematic at other areas and that other entrepreneurs are already delivering such services. Parkbus service is one example of a third-party tour that is operating.

The members indicated appreciation for staff efforts to address these issues, particularly to mitigate safety concerns.

CA1936

**MOVED BY: Duke O'Sullivan
SECONDED BY: Lydia Cartlidge**

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

THAT Staff be directed to implement the following directions outlined in the report titled "HCA Conservation Area - Visitor Management & Vehicle Parking Review";

Recommendation #1 – HCA staff implement immediate parking enhancement opportunities at Artaban Road, Tiffany Falls, Devil's Punchbowl, Tew Falls and Westfield Heritage Village to optimize number of parking spaces, traffic flow and signage;

Recommendation #2- HCA staff undertake steps to consider expansion of the Artaban road parking lot through a Niagara Escarpment development permit;

Recommendation #3 – HCA staff undertake steps to establish an interim parking lot and trail connection to the Dofasco Trail for the Devil’s Punchbowl at the Saltfleet Conservation Area;

Recommendation #4 – HCA staff further examine and explore additional options for safe visitor access to Tiffany Falls;

Recommendation #5 – HCA staff work with various agencies and partners such as City of Hamilton, Tourism Hamilton, Hamilton/Burlington Trails Council etc. to encourage transportation alternatives;

Recommendation #6 – HCA develop a marketing campaign and website enhancements to increase turnover and shorter term stays at areas with limited parking and encourage visitation to less frequented areas and when there is capacity;

Recommendation #7 – HCA staff ensure that the approved 10-year Masterplan Strategy incorporates detailed review of parking at all areas through the Master planning process.

CARRIED

9.2. Saltfleet Conservation Area Wetland Design – Verbal Update

Scott presented an update of the wetland design project progress for the Sargold and Napev properties. He noted that 30% of the design and background work has been completed. An initial concept was submitted. However, with the guiding principle for this project being that the design must look like a natural wetland, staff provided comments requesting revisions in this regard. A revised concept has been returned showing two cells of wetlands and preserving an existing woodland area. The preliminary design will be circulated to planning, ecology and CAPSS staff for their review and comment.

Scott presented a second preliminary plan for the second wetland on the Felix property.

CA1937

**MOVED BY: Joanne Di Maio
SECONDED BY: Cheryl Larocque**

THAT the verbal update on the Saltfleet Conservation Area Wetland Design be received as information.

CARRIED

9.3. Upcoming HCA & Partner Events

Bruce Harschnitz presented a summary of the report. He highlighted the successful events of September, including the Christie Antique and Vintage Show, Bright Run, Telling Tales and Autumn Stroll. He added that reservations for camping at Valens Lake Conservation Area are full through Thanksgiving weekend. There are many Halloween themed events in the coming weeks, as well as Migratory Bird Hikes, the Spencer Creek Salmon Stroll and the Road2Hope Marathon.

10. New Business

There was none.

11. Next Meeting – Thursday, December 12, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

The next meeting of the CAB is scheduled for Thursday, December 12, 2019 at 4:00 p.m., at the HCA Main Office.

12. Adjournment

On motion, the meeting was adjourned.



Report

TO: Conservation Advisory Board

FROM: Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

RECOMMENDED BY: Matt Hall, Director Capital Projects & Strategic Services

PREPARED BY: Kathy Smith, Design Projects Coordinator

DATE: February 13, 2020

RE: Visitor Safety at Dundas Peak

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

THAT “Visitor Safety Management Option #1 – Fencing” be endorsed for implementation at the Dundas Peak.

BACKGROUND

The Dundas Peak provides a panoramic view of the Spencer Gorge, the town of Dundas, and the City of Hamilton. Official HCA visitor access to the Dundas Peak is gained via a trail from the Tew Falls parking lot, which is also an official side trail of the Bruce Trail.

In 1992, HCA staff identified a need to provide a safer lookout area at the Dundas Peak. An application was submitted by the HCA to the Ontario Heritage Foundation for a Niagara Escarpment Project Grant for capital improvements at the peak. Staff submitted plans for a stone wall that would retain the character of the natural area and keep visitors a safe distance back from the cliff edge. Subsequently, funding and approvals were secured to initiate the project.

The stone wall seen on site today was installed in 1993, with some later modifications made to the wall capping. Since then the HCA has also implemented a variety of signage and additional fencing in many areas throughout the Spencer Gorge, to enhance safety. There are two viewing platforms at Tew Falls, as well as other similar

platforms along the trail leading to the Dundas Peak, to offer safe visitor lookout points. The Dundas Peak and Spencer Gorge continue to attract attention on social media and visitors from across the GTHA, as a result the HCA continues to evolve its operations and visitor management practices for the area.

STAFF COMMENT

With the growth in popularity of the Dundas Peak, staff have noted concerns with visitor behaviour in connection with their experience at Dundas Peak. Specifically, persistent graffiti on the stone wall is being experienced, degrading the visual appearance. Of greater concern is; despite the wall being a safe distance back from the cliff face, visitors bypass or climb over the wall, venturing out to the edges of the natural lookout. Staff have also noted the creation of unauthorized side trails to create new look out spots. Multiple images are appearing online of visitors at or on cliff edges and endangering themselves.

The HCA continues to promote safety around waterfalls and escarpment areas by advising visitors to remain on trails, to stay behind fences and barriers and to remain at all times back from edges. These messages are found on our website, in media releases, and on-site signage with pictograms. This is not done to detract from the natural beauty of the area, but to convey and emphasize the importance of safe behaviours while in these natural escarpment areas with steep drops.

Despite current safety initiatives, many visitors continue to venture to cliff edges of the Dundas Peak. It is not uncommon to see people sitting or standing at or on the brink of the rock outcrops, often to obtain photos or selfies. This behaviour poses a risk management challenge, as should a visitor fall from this escarpment area, a rope rescue by the Hamilton Fire Department is required, who are trained to carry out these rescues safely. Rope rescues continue to be carried out at this area, and accordingly, staff have reviewed this issue and have developed several Visitor Safety Management Options. These are detailed as follows:

Visitor Safety Management Option #1 - Fencing:

The staff preferred and recommended option is fencing the perimeter of the Peak. A conceptual drawing of this solution is attached as Appendix 1.0. The extent of the proposed fencing is shown in Appendix 2.0. This fence would match decorative metal picket fencing previously installed at the other two main features of the Spencer Gorge; Webster and Tew Falls.

Picket fencing has proven to be an effective low maintenance barrier in many other areas at Spencer Gorge and is felt that it would permit visitors safe views from the Peak. Fencing of this style would allow the HCA to maximize the safe viewing area at the Dundas Peak as it has a minimal footprint and can be installed safely, with much

more flexibility in its configuration. The natural, irregular shape, of the Dundas Peak will require this ability for customization.

The proposed option requires removing the existing stone wall and restoration of this area, prior to adding new fencing. In addition to this, staff also propose extending the fencing alongside the trail to block any unauthorized side trails leading to nearby escarpment edges. Additional site restoration is also recommended to re-vegetate and close off the unauthorized side trails, as well as adding new interpretive signage and safety messaging onsite to educate visitors on the site's history, the unstable nature of its geology and the importance of staying on official marked trails.

Visitor Safety Management Option #2 – Leave as is with Additional Signage:

This option is for the existing wall to remain in place as the safety barrier and potentially add additional on-site safety signage. This recognizes that this is a natural look out point and many similar such areas exist along the length of the Niagara Escarpment. It would also leave the Peak as the only lookout area along the trail in the Spencer Gorge that does not have a fenced safety barrier.

Visitor Safety Management Option #3 – Extend the Wall:

This option would be to extend the existing stone wall. Experience with the existing wall has shown that visitors do not remain behind the barrier, and as such, staff do not feel that the impact of extending the wall will have the desired effect of keeping visitors away from the cliff edge. It would also be a target for more graffiti.

Visitor Safety Management Option #4 – Viewing Platform:

This option would be to install a lookout platform, or platforms, with railings similar to the other lookout platforms around the Spencer Gorge Conservation Area. This option would require a variety of designs, studies and approvals, in addition to the initial capital and ongoing maintenance costs that would be required. This option would take a number of years to accomplish, which does not address risk management and safety in the short term.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGE

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

- **Strategic Priority Area – Organizational Excellence**
 - Initiative – Support the capital development and major maintenance program to enhance our facilities and ensure they are safe, functional and current
- **Strategic Priority Area – Conservation Area Experience**

- Initiative – Develop visitor and parking management strategies to support conservation areas for sustainable recreation, education and tourism.

AGENCY COMMENTS

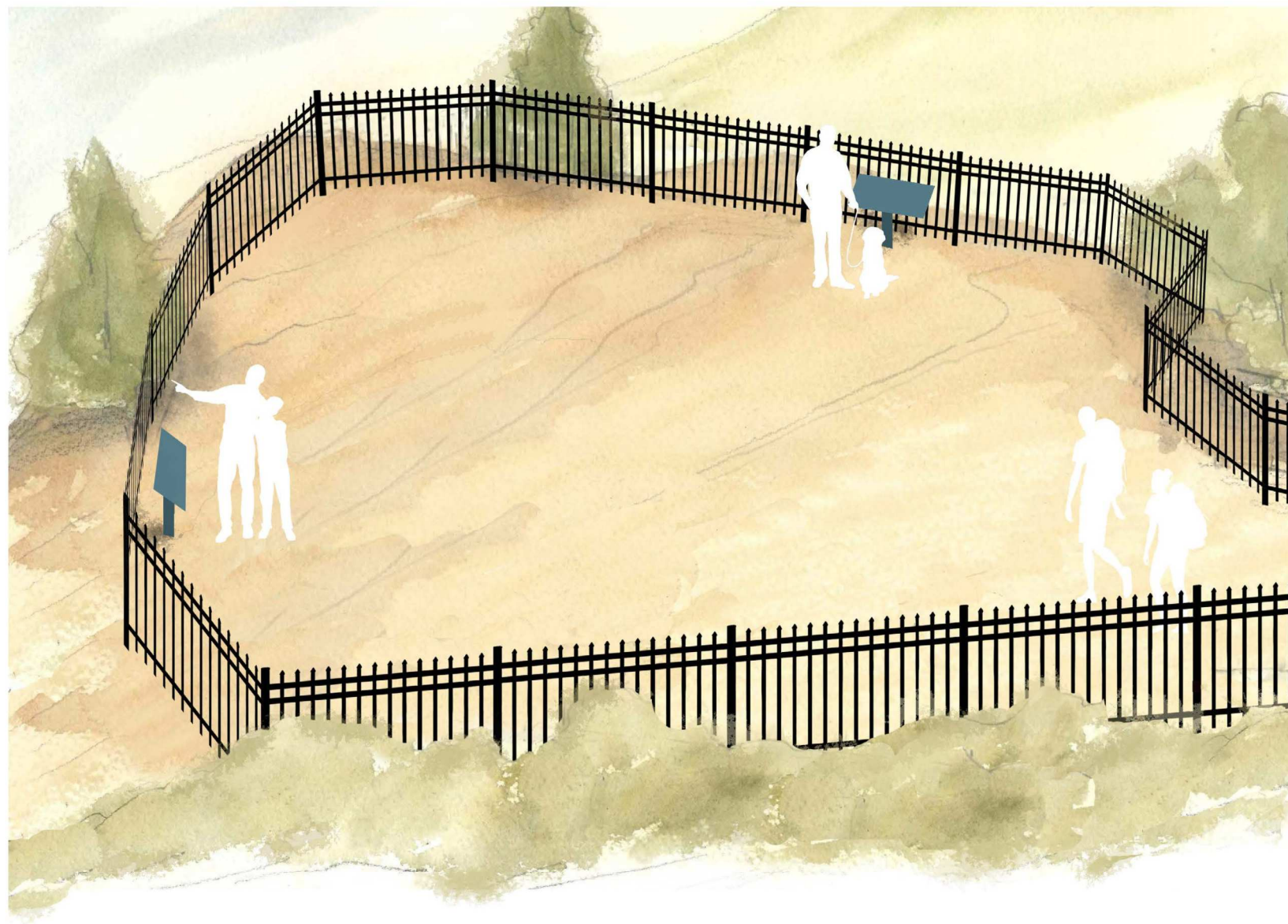
This project area is subject to development review by the Niagara Escarpment Commission. Depending on the recommended solution, a development permit may be required by the NEC for site works to proceed.

LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All proposed works will be funded through the 2020 Capital Budget. Further site investigation and risk assessment may be required as part of this project.

CONCLUSIONS

The Dundas Peak provides a spectacular view of Dundas, Hamilton and the Spencer Gorge. The recommended visitor safety management strategy is intended to help enhance public safety at one of the HCA's most popular conservation areas in our watershed. Visitors venturing to the edge of the rock outcrops, are at risk of serious injury. The addition of fencing is a reasonable safety enhancement which is consistent throughout the conservation area



**DUNDAS PEAK FENCING CONCEPT VIEW
SPENCER GORGE C.A.**

DATE: 2020/01/27





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 13, 2020

RE: Westfield Heritage Village 2020 Accession and Deaccession List

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

THAT the Westfield Heritage Village 2019 Artifact Acquisitions and Deaccession List be accepted as the artifacts added to, or removed from, the Westfield Heritage Village and the 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 this area. 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 acquisition, preservation, documentation, research and use of the artifact 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 into 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.

Deaccessioning is the permanent removal of an object from the collection. The deaccession process will be undertaken according to the highest professional standards and ethical practices, and will be fully documented. The decision to deaccession an artifact, as well as the subsequent methods of disposal, will be made by the Collections Committee, through consultation with the Collections Officer and the Westfield Manager. A list of deaccessioned items will be provided to the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority at year end.

STAFF COMMENT

Westfield staff is 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 initiative refers directly to the HCA Strategic Plan 2019 - 2023:

- **Strategic Priority Area – Conservation Area Experience**
 - Initiatives – Identify and support a more diverse and accessible range of programs for our conservation area users

AGENCY COMMENTS

Not applicable.

LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

In accepting these artifacts 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 Deaccession List: 2019

Number	Item	Condition
987.3010.1	Foot board	poor
987.3010.2	Head board	poor
994.4.27	Bed post	poor
987.3166.1	Desk part	poor
X974.857.1	Bed board	poor
996.145.1	Bed board	poor
996.146.1	Bed board	poor
996.144.1	Bed board	poor
994.4.28	Bed board	poor
987.1555.1	Whipple tree	poor
987.2059.1	Handle, green	poor
987.1846.1	Whipple tree part	poor
987.1848.1	Whipple tree part	poor
987.1691.1	Hames	poor
987.1701.1	Hames	poor
987.1690.1	Hames	poor
987.1844.1	Whipple tree part	poor
987.1694.1	Hames	poor
987.1700.1	Hames	poor
987.1698.1	Hames	poor
987.1697.1	Hames	poor
987.1695.1	Hames	poor
987.1699.1	Hames	poor
987.1692.1	Hames	poor
X975.35.2	Chimney, glass	poor

Westfield Donations List Complete for 2019

- **Clock, office, 1910**
- **Wicker laundry basket**
- **Barometer, wood and glass**
- **Collection of six postcards, photographic, Hamilton**
- **Group of two recipe books**
- **Group of two, small wooden boxes, inlay on top**
- **Baptismal certificate, framed**
- **Table cloth, embroidered**
- **Christening gown**
- **Physicians weigh scale with weights**
- **Set of wooden exercise pins, 1890's**
- **Wicker parlor chair, Victorian**
- **Railway register, TH&B**
- **Postcard, TH&B, 1900**
- **Telegraph key and sounder, TH&B Summit Station**
- **Inkwell, glass**
- **Wax seal, TH&B Summit station**
- **Group of two commemorative plaques**
- **Group of four chairs from Troy Hall, 1880's**
- **12 pieces, silver cutlery, Victorian**
- **Clothes brush**
- **Stereo viewer**
- **Mill stone, early 1800's, Ancaster chert**
- **Lithography stone**
- **Pair of buggy wheels**
- **"Magic Lantern" candle powered slide projector**
- **Package of 11 "Magic Lantern" glass slides**
- **"Home Boy" immigration certificate, Beverly Township**
- **Framed photo, Edwardian homestead, Rockton**
- **Sleigh, child's, downhill**
- **Collection of 15 docs, Strabane Temperance Society, 1891**
- **Ukelelee, early 1900's**
- **Desk bell**
- **Cast Iron lamb baking form**
- **Group of 18 sewing notions and devices**
- **Stamping kit, two full fonts**

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

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

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

Good Friday

April 10, 12:30 – 4:00 pm

Westfield Heritage Village

1049 Kirkwall Road, Rockton, ON L0R 1X0

Enjoy traditional spring-themed games, crafts, activities and demonstrations. Visit the many historical buildings with volunteers in period clothing and enjoy a hike on the trails. The General Store and the Gift Shop have sweet treats and unique gifts. For more information visit www.westfieldheritage.ca

Easter Weekend Camping

April 10 - 13

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