



Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Thursday, September 2, 2021



Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, September 2, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

This meeting will be held by WebEx videoconference.

**The meeting can be viewed live on HCA's You Tube Channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/HamiltonConservation>**

- 1. Call to Order** – Ferguson
- 2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest**
- 3. Approval of Agenda**
- 4. Delegations**
- 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 – July 8, 2021
 - 5.3. Correspondence from Marc Broe-Vayda regarding the closure of the Bruce Side Trail at Sydenham Road, dated July 21, 2021, and staff response, dated July 30, 2021
- 6. Foundation Briefing** Foundation Chair – Stebbing
- 7. Member Briefing**
 - 7.1. Saltfleet Conservation Area Update
Media Release and [Video](#) – Peck
- 8. Business Arising from the Minutes**
- 9. Reports from Budget & Administration Committee and Conservation Advisory Board**
- 10. Other Staff Reports/Memorandums**

- 10.1. WWW Slide Resurfacing and Repainting Tender – Hall
- 10.2. Watershed Conditions Report – Peck
- 10.3. Conservation Areas Experiences Update – Costie
- 10.4. Mandatory Covid-19 Vaccination Verification and Testing Policy – McDougall / Watts

11. New Business

12. In-Camera Items

13. Next Meeting – Thursday, October 7, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

14. Adjournment



Memorandum

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer

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

DATE: September 2, 2021

RE: Summary Enforcement Report – Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses
Regulation 161/06 Applications for September 2, 2021

HCA Regulation applications approved by staff between the dates of June 28, 2021 and August 20, 2021 are summarized in the following Summary Enforcement Report (SER-7/21).

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board of Directors receive this Summary Enforcement Report SER-7/21 as information.

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

August 20, 2021

Development, Interference with Wetlands, and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Applications Report to the Board of Directors of the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority, September 02, 2021

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

SUMMARY ENFORCEMENT REPORT SER 7/21

File Number	Date Received	Date Permit Issued	Review Days	Applicant Name	Location	Application Description	Recommendation / Conditions
D/F,C/21/47	24-Jun-21	09-Jul-21	19		107 Turnbull Rd Lot 47, Concession 1 Dundas	Construction of a pool and removal of fill in a regulated area of Sulphur Creek.	Approved subject to standard conditions
F/F,A/21/48	25-Mar-21	09-Jul-21	100		Pt Lt 31, Con 10, Lennon Rd between Gore Rd and Con 10 Rd W Lot 31, Concession 10 Flamborough	Culvert replacements and maintenance in a regulated area of Fletcher Creek.	Approved subject to standard conditions
F/F,A/21/49	25-Mar-21	09-Jul-21	100		Pt Lt 13, Con 3, Ofield Rd N from Con 4 Rd W to 628 Ofield Rd N Lot 13, Concession 3 Flamborough	Culvert replacements and maintenance in a regulated area of Logie's Creek.	Approved subject to standard conditions
F/F,A/21/50	25-Mar-21	09-Jul-21	100		Pt Lts 25, 26, 27 and 28, Con 4, Con 5 Rd W between Valens Rd and Westover Rd Lot 25,26,27,28, Concession 4 Flamborough	Culvert replacements and maintenance in a regulated area of West Spencer Creek.	Approved subject to standard conditions

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SUMMARY ENFORCEMENT REPORT SER 7/21

A/F,A/21/51	29-Mar-21	09-Jul-21	96		Pt Lts 37-41, Con 1, Binkley Rd to Sulphur Springs Rd Lot 37-41, Concession 1 Ancaster	Culvert replacements and maintenance in a regulated area of Sulphur Creek.	Approved subject to standard conditions
D/F,C/17/52	10-Jul-17	09-Jul-21	98		16 Tally Ho Dr Lot 49, Concession 1 Dundas	Construction of a new single residential home, in a regulated area of Spencer Creek.	Approved subject to standard conditions
SC/F,C,A/21/54	29-Jun-21	14-Jul-21	15		400 McNeilly Rd Lot 8, Concession 1 Stoney Creek	Installation approximately 66 metres of new NPS 2 inch natural gas pipeline to service a commercial development in a regulated area of Stoney Creek Watercourse 7.2.	Approved subject to standard conditions
A/F,A/21/52	16-Jun-21	04-Aug-21	67		Pt Lt 53, Con 4, 77 Glancaster Rd Lot 53, Concession 4 Ancaster	Culvert replacement and maintenance in a regulated area of Tiffany Creek.	Approved subject to standard conditions

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SUMMARY ENFORCEMENT REPORT SER 7/21

SC/F,A/21/53	16-Jun-21	05-Aug-21	59		Pt Lts 22, 23 and 24, Con 7, 154 Upper Centennial Pky to 90 Mud St Lot 22,23,24, Concession 7 Stoney Creek	Cleanout of existing ditches and maintenance in a regulated area of Stoney Creek.	Approved subject to standard conditions
F/F,C,A/21/55	10-Jun-21	05-Aug-21	49		1021 6th Con Rd W Lot 3, Concession 6 Flamborough	Construction of a new dwelling, accessory structures and septic system in a regulated area of Flamborough Creek.	Approved subject to standard conditions
H/F,C/20/77	28-Sep-20	05-Aug-21	87		7 Oakwood Pl Lot 57, Concession 1 Hamilton	Demolition of an existing in- ground swimming pool, and construction of a new 2-storey dwelling in a regulated area of Westdale Creek.	Approved subject to standard conditions
H/A/21/46	23-Jun-21	11-Aug-21	49		1964, 1966 and 1968 Main St W Lot 53, Concession 1 Hamilton	Culvert repairs, including the replacement/addition of wooden supports and framing, welding of steel support plates, and corrosion repair and painting in a regulated area of Ancaster Creek.	Approved subject to standard conditions

HAMILTON REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

DEVELOPMENT, INTERFERENCE WITH WETLANDS, AND ALTERATIONS TO SHORELINES AND WATERCOURSES APPLICATIONS

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SUMMARY ENFORCEMENT REPORT SER 7/21

A/C/21/29	29-Mar-21	13-Aug-21	39		165 Beverly Crt Lot 41, Concession 2 Ancaster	Construction of a sunroom porch addition in a regulated area of a ravine slope associated with Sulphur Creek.	Approved subject to standard conditions

Hamilton Region Conservation Authority

Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting

July 8, 2021

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on Thursday, July 8, 2021, at 7.p.m., by videoconference and livestreamed via YouTube.

PRESENT: **Lloyd Ferguson – in the Chair**
 Dan Bowman **Jim Cimba**
 Chad Collins **Susan Fielding**
 Tom Jackson **Cynthia Janzen**
 Santina Moccio **Esther Pauls**
 Maria Topalovic

Jennifer Stebbing – Foundation Chair

REGRETS: **Brad Clark**

STAFF PRESENT: **Lisa Burnside, Grace Correia, Gord Costie, Lesley McDonell, Scott Peck, Jaime Tellier and Nancy Watts**

OTHERS: **Jo-Anne Rzadki**

1. Welcome

Lisa Burnside welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Jo-Anne Rzadki, Business Development and Partnerships Coordinator for Conservation Ontario, as the Acting Chair for the purposes of the election of officers.

2. Election of Officers

Jo-Anne Rzadki welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised she would serve as Acting Chair for the election of officers.

Jo-Anne reviewed the election procedures to be as follows:

- Nominations only require a “mover”;
- Nominations will be called 3 times for each office;
- Closing of nominations will require a “mover” and a “seconder”;

- Each nominee will be asked if they are willing to serve;
- If more than one person is nominated and willing to serve, there will be a vote by anonymous electronic poll;
- Each nominee will be allowed to speak in support of his/her nomination with a time limit of 5 minutes;
- A vote will be held by the electronic polling feature within the Webex videoconferencing application. No member may vote by proxy.

Jo-Anne asked if there were any questions, and hearing none, declared all offices vacant.

2.1. Appoint Scrutineers

BD12, 2911

MOVED BY: Santina Moccio

SECONDED BY: Maria Topalovic

THAT, if more than one person is nominated, Jaime Tellier be appointed scrutineer; and further

THAT all electronic polling results be closed and not saved after each polling is concluded.

CARRIED

2.2. Election of 2021 Chair

Jo-Anne Rzadki called for nominations for the 2021 Chair for the Hamilton Conservation Authority.

Nominated: Lloyd Ferguson

By – Mover: Jim Cimba

Jo-Anne called for nominations twice more. Having no further nominations, the office of Authority Chair for 2021 was declared closed with the following resolution.

BD12, 2912

MOVED BY: Dan Bowman

SECONDED BY: Esther Pauls

THAT nominations for the 2021 Chair of the Hamilton Conservation Authority be closed.

CARRIED

Jo-Anne asked Lloyd Ferguson if he would serve. Lloyd Ferguson indicated he would. Jo-Anne declared Lloyd Ferguson Chair of the Board of Directors for 2021 by acclamation. The newly appointed Chair thanked the members for their confidence and re-electing him to the position of Chair. He commented that 2021 has been a challenging year, in light of the pandemic, however that HCA is persevering and continues to see record numbers of visitors to our conservation areas. He noted that he looks forward to new projects in this next term.

**BD12, 2913 MOVED BY: Cynthia Janzen
 SECONDED BY: Tom Jackson**

**THAT Lloyd Ferguson be confirmed as Chair of the
Hamilton Conservation Authority Board of Directors for
2021.**

CARRIED

2.3. Election of 2021 Vice-Chair

Jo-Anne Rzaadki called for nominations for the 2021 Vice-Chair for the Hamilton Conservation Authority.

Nominated: Santina Moccio

By – Mover: Tom Jackson

Jo-Anne called for nominations a second and third time. Having no further nominations, Jo-Anne declared the office of Authority Vice-Chair for 2021 closed with the following resolution:

**BD12, 2914 MOVED BY: Tom Jackson
 SECONDED BY: Maria Topalovic**

**THAT nominations for the 2021 Vice Chair of the
Hamilton Conservation Authority be closed.**

CARRIED

Jo-Anne asked Santina Moccio if she would serve. Santina Moccio indicated she would. Jo-Anne declared Santina Moccio as Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors by acclamation.

**BD12, 2915 MOVED BY: Tom Jackson
 SECONDED BY: Lloyd Ferguson**

THAT Santina Moccio be confirmed as Vice-Chair of the Hamilton Conservation Authority Board of Directors for 2021.

CARRIED

The newly appointed Vice-Chair commented on the honour to serve, the challenges and opportunities over the past year, and anticipation for the coming term.

2.4. Election of Chair to Conservation Advisory Board

Jo-Anne Rzaccki called for nominations for the 2021 Chair for the Conservation Advisory Board.

Nominated: Dan Bowman

By – Mover: Maria Topalovic

Jo-Anne called for nominations a second and third time. Having no further nominations, Jo-Anne declared the office of Chair of the Conservation Advisory Board for 2021 closed with the following resolution:

BD12, 2916

MOVED BY: Susan Fielding

SECONDED BY: Cynthia Janzen

THAT nominations for the 2021 Chair of the Conservation Advisory Board be closed.

CARRIED

Jo-Anne asked Dan Bowman if he would accept the nomination. Dan accepted the nomination. Jo-Anne declared Dan as Chair of the Conservation Advisory Board by acclamation.

BD12, 2917

MOVED BY: Lloyd Ferguson

SECONDED BY: Santina Moccio

THAT Dan Bowman be confirmed as Chair of the Conservation Advisory Board 2021.

CARRIED

Dan thanked the members for their confidence. He noted he was Chair of CAB in the past and looks forward to returning to the position.

2.5. Board Representatives to Budget & Administration Committee

Jo-Anne Rzaeki advised that the Budget & Administration Committee consists of five (5) Board of Director members; the Chair, Vice Chair, and up to three (3) additional directors may join the Chair and Vice-Chair as sitting members of B&A.

Jo-Anne asked for a show of hands for members interested in sitting on the Budget & Administration Committee.

Following the call for expressions of interest, Jo-Anne announced that in addition to the Chair of B&A, Santina Moccio, board members Dan Bowman, Jim Cimba and Maria Topalovic were interested in sitting on the Budget & Administration Committee.

BD12, 2918

MOVED BY: Susan Fielding

SECONDED BY: Santina Moccio

THAT Dan Bowman, Jim Cimba, and Maria Topalovic be confirmed as members of the Budget & Administration Committee for 2021.

CARRIED

2.6. Board Representatives to Conservation Advisory Board

Jo-Anne Rzaeki explained that up to two additional directors may join the newly elected CAB Chair as sitting members of CAB and asked for a show of hands for members interested in sitting on the Conservation Advisory Board.

Jo-Anne announced that in addition to the Chair of CAB, Dan Bowman, board member Cynthia Janzen was interested in sitting on the Conservation Advisory Board.

BD12, 2919

MOVED BY: Lloyd Ferguson

SECONDED BY: Santina Moccio

THAT Cynthia Janzen be confirmed as a member of the Conservation Advisory Board for 2021.

CARRIED

3. Call to Order for Normal Course of Business

The Chair called the meeting to order and thanked Jo-Anne for her assistance with the elections. The Chair also thanked staff for their efforts to sustain programs and services throughout the pandemic, and accommodating record numbers of visitors.

4. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

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

5. Approval of Agenda

The Chair requested any additions or deletions to the agenda. Lisa Burnside advised of an additional item of correspondence regarding pedestrian safety at Fifty Point Conservation Area, to be added as item 7.12 on the agenda and an in camera legal update.

BD12, 2920

**MOVED BY: Susan Fielding
SECONDED BY: Jim Cimba**

THAT the agenda be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

6. Delegations

There were none.

7. Consent Items for Applications, Minutes and Correspondence

The following consent items were adopted:

- 7.1. Applications – Development, Interference with Wetlands, Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses
- 7.2. Approved April 8, 2021 Conservation Advisory Board Minutes – for receipt only
- 7.3. Approved May 20, 2021 Budget & Administration Committee Minutes – for receipt only
- 7.4. Approval of Board of Directors Minutes – June 3, 2021

- 7.5. Letter from Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks to City of Hamilton, dated May 17, 2021 re Exception Requests for Municipal Appointments
- 7.6. Letter from Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Jeff Yurek, dated June 3, 2021 re Minister Approval of Exception Requests
- 7.7. 33 Items of correspondence respecting 140 Garner Road East, Ancaster, labelled a) to ag)
- 7.8. 8 Items of correspondence respecting 140 Garner Road East, Ancaster, labelled a) to h)
- 7.9. Provincial news release dated June 18, 2021 re. cabinet changes with new Ministers for MECP and MNRF
- 7.10. Conservation Ontario's Comments on "Regulatory proposals (Phase 1) under the Conservation Authorities Act" (ERO# 019-2986), dated June 22, 2021
- 7.11. Conservation Ontario letter to David Piccini, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, re. Conservation Authorities Act regulatory proposals review, dated June 22, 2021
- 7.12 Email from Heather Campbell regarding Pedestrian Safety – Fifty Point Conservation Area, dated July 4, 2021

Susan Fielding inquired about any known biographical information on Minister Piccini. Lisa indicated inquiries have been made in this regard. Minister Puccini is from the Peterborough area. Any mandates that have been provided are not known at this time. Staff are aware that the new Minister of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry, is a formal federal member of parliament.

The Chair requested staff comments on item 7.12. Gord Costie indicated staff understand the issues raised, also noting they have been heightened due to increased visitation. The master planning process for Fifty Point Conservation Area is currently underway. In the interim, changes have recently been made to the entryway to better facilitate entrance. Staff are prioritizing modernizing access for vehicles, cyclists, and pedestrians, for safety and efficiency. Staff were directed to respond to Ms. Campbell and include the Board members on the response.

8. Foundation Briefing

Jennifer Stebbing reported on the following:

The Foundation received a total of **\$9,508** in donations from June 1 to 30, 2021. They break down as follows:

- \$5,500 for our Planting Fund
- \$2,518 for our Area of Greatest Need Fund
- \$1,025 for the Hamilton Watershed Stewardship Program
- The remaining \$465 was donated to the Dundas Valley Trails Fund, Westfield Heritage Village, the Land Securement Fund and the Trail Development Fund.

This brings the fiscal year-to-date (Dec 2020 to June 2021) fundraising total to **\$124,166**.

The Election of Officers was held at the June Board of Directors. Jennifer Stebbing was elected as Chair, Graham Reid as Vice-Chair and Justin Taravski as Secretary-Treasurer until the next Annual General Meeting.

BD12, 2921

MOVED BY: Dan Bowman

SECONDED BY: Santina Moccio

THAT the Hamilton Conservation Foundation briefing be received as information.

CARRIED

9. Member Briefing

There was none.

10. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was none.

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

11.1. Budget and Administration Committee – June 17, 2021 (Recommendations)

Santina Moccio summarized discussions by the Budget & Administration Committee regarding meeting procedures when Section 28 hearings are held. It was noted Section 28 hearings will be limited to one per Board of Directors meeting, that hearings would remain on the regular Board meeting schedule with consideration for

an earlier start date of 6pm if quorum can be achieved so that meetings do not run late into the evening.

11.1.1. BA 2122 Minimum Wage Increase to Casual Wage Rates

BD12, 2922 **MOVED BY: Santina Moccio**
SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman

THAT the Budget & Administration Committee recommends to the Board of Directors:
THAT the revised October 1, 2021 Casual/Seasonal wage grids for Hamilton Conservation Authority, Confederation Beach Park/Wild Waterworks and Construction/Millgrove as outlined in the June 17, 2021 report be approved.

CARRIED

11.2. Conservation Advisory Board – June 10, 2021
 (Recommendations)

11.2.1. CA 2122 HCA Conservation Area Pay & Display Parking Lots
 – Parking Enforcement Support

BD12, 2923 **MOVED BY: Maria Topalovic**
SECONDED BY: Jim Cimba

WHEREAS HCA has limited resources to enforce paid admission at non-gated Conservation Area parking lots with only pay & display systems; and

WHEREAS HCA is currently working with City Parking Bylaw Enforcement in discouraging roadside parking near Conservation Areas through their enforcement of No Parking signage or Special Enforcement Area signage across the city where deemed unsafe or where causing vehicle congestion around communities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

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

THAT City of Hamilton Parking Bylaw Enforcement Officers be authorized to enforce all unauthorized parking on private property at Conservation Areas for non-payment of daily permit or non-display of HCA membership access at selected parking lots; and

THAT HCA staff undertake the steps necessary to obtain an agreement between City of Hamilton Parking Bylaw Enforcement and HCA to enforce Unauthorized Parking – Private Parking at non-gated Conservation Area parking lots; and further

THAT the agreement be for an initial pilot period of 6 months, from July to December 2021, and staff report back on the experience to the Conservation Advisory Board and Board of Directors

CARRIED

12. Other Staff Reports/Memoranda

12.1. Gypsy Moth Monitoring and Management – Verbal Presentation

Lesley McDonell provided a presentation with an update on the LDD (Gypsy) moth monitoring program and management practices, including a summary of Fall/Winter egg mass survey results and egg mass scraping and burlap banding control methods undertaken. At Valens and Christie, 1500 egg masses were scraped from trees and over 3000 caterpillars were removed. Lesley showed photos of trees experiencing defoliation in contrast to trees that are not affected. Defoliation monitoring is also being undertaken at the west end of the Dundas Valley, Westfield, and Borer's Falls – Rock Chapel. Lesley commented on natural controls for gypsy moth, the NVP virus and a fungus, and summarized the details of the aerial spray of btk pesticide undertaken in 2018. Egg mass surveys will continue this Fall/Winter. Defoliation forecasts from the monitoring will help to inform management options in the Spring.

BD12, 2924

**MOVED BY: Tom Jackson
SECONDED BY: Esther Pauls**

THAT the verbal presentation on Gypsy Moth Monitoring and Management be received.

CARRIED

12.2. Watershed Conditions Report

Scott Peck presented a summary of the report, advising the members that the Hamilton Low Water Response Team recently declared a Level 1 Low Water Condition for the watershed. Recent rains are expected to help alleviate these conditions. Christie Lake is now at summer operating levels as a result of the rain. There have been no recent or current observations or reports of significant watercourse flooding, public safety concerns, or Lake Ontario shoreline flooding, and none are expected in the coming 1-2 weeks.

BD12, 2925

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

THAT the memorandum entitled Watershed Conditions Report be received.

CARRIED

12.3. Conservation Areas Experiences Update

Gord Costie provided a verbal update highlighting that the Conservation Areas continue to see high visitation. Staff monitor attendance at all areas, major and smaller parkette areas. Some areas like Valens Lake are nearing capacity for day use visitation, particularly on weekends, resulting in temporary closures and diversion of visitors to nearby areas with capacity, like Westfield Heritage Village and Christie Lake. The smaller parkette areas, such as Devil's Punchbowl, Tiffany Falls and Artaban Road continue to grow in visitation. Staff continue to manage all areas with this high demand and are prepared to continue through the rest of the summer season.

BD12, 2926

**MOVED BY: Maria Topalovic
SECONDED BY: Santina Moccio**

THAT the verbal update on the Conservation Areas Experiences be received.

CARRIED

13. New Business

There was none.

14. In-Camera Items

BD12, 2927**MOVED BY: Dan Bowman
SECONDED BY: Cynthia Janzen****THAT the Board of Directors moves *in camera* for matters of law, personnel and property.****CARRIED****During the *in camera* session, one legal matter was discussed.****14.1. Confidential Verbal Update – BD/Jul 01-2021**

Scott Peck provided the members with a verbal update regarding a legal matter and answered the members questions.

BD12, 2928**MOVED BY: Cynthia Janzen
SECONDED BY: Susan Fielding****THAT the confidential verbal update entitled BD/Jul 01-2021 be received.****CARRIED****BD12, 2929****MOVED BY: Cynthia Janzen
SECONDED BY: Esther Pauls****THAT the Board of Directors moves out of *in camera*.****CARRIED****15. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, September 2, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the HCA Main Administration Office – Woodend Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, Ontario.

16. Adjournment

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

Neil McDougall
Secretary-Treasurer

From: [Gord Costie](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [Jaime Tellier](#); "[Peck, Scott \(scott.peck@conservationhamilton.ca\)](#)"
Subject: FW: Regarding the closure of the Bruce Side Trail at Sydenham Road
Date: July 30, 2021 4:34:01 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Good afternoon Mr. Broe-Vayda,

I am Gord Costie the Director of Conservation Area Services for the Hamilton Conservation Authority.

Your email of July 21, 2021 has been received at our Woodend main office and will be shared at the next scheduled Board of Directors meeting September 2, 2021. In advance of the Board meeting, I wanted to reply to your email so you are not waiting for over a month for response to your enquiry of trail closures near Spencer Gorge Conservation Area.

I appreciate your hiking knowledge of the Spencer Gorge Conservation Area and of your support to the HCA through your membership pass. As you note in your email, HCA has taken significant steps in requiring all entries for Dundas Peak, Tew and Webster Falls though the parking areas located in up in Greensville. The HCA Board approved a pilot reservation system from May to November 2021 and our staff are actively gathering information to bring back to the Board for 2022 recommendations.

In regards to the trial closures below the escarpment, HCA has worked closely with the city of Hamilton and the Bruce Trail Conservancy on determining the best approach in keeping people safely on managed trails while gaining access to the Spencer Gorge Conservation Area. Having a partial open trail system which brings hikers near the area was not the preferred avenue and was deemed unrealistic for trail boundaries. HCA will continue to review operations including all Bruce Side Trails at the conclusion of the reservation service and your request to reopen trails for hiking will be considered. In the interim, HCA is advising all trails below Spencer Gorge Conservation Area will remain closed until further notice.

I am available to speak with or email with at your pleasure and I thank you for writing to Hamilton Conservation Authority.

Gord

Gordon R. Costie
 Director of Conservation Area Services
 Hamilton Conservation Authority

838 Mineral Springs Road, P.O. Box 81067
Ancaster, ON L9G 4X1
Phone: 905 525 2181 Ext.168
Email: gcostie@conservationhamilton.ca

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From: Marc Broe-Vayda <[REDACTED]>
Sent: July 21, 2021 6:14 PM
To: Jaime Tellier <Jaime.Tellier@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: Regarding the closure of the Bruce Side Trail at Sydenham Road

Hello Jaime Tellier, Board of Hamilton Conservation Authority,

I am both a Bruce Trail Hiker and HCA membership (parking) holder writing about the closure of a side trail on HCA land, Dundas part of the Niagara Escarpment.

The recent closure of the hiking trail along the Niagara Escarpment west of Sydenham Road in Dundas is not a popular choice. As a frequent hiker, I have noticed it is enjoyed by many. Although, the HCA requests that entrants reserve and pay to walk the Tews and Dundas Peak Trail and though the HCA has incurred costs on the trail building plus fencing, I don't see the need to close the mentioned trail. If the Bruce Side Trail was allowed to terminate East of Dundas Peak, it would still be available for hiking.

Please consider allowing the Bruce side trail to reopen west of Sydenham Road on HCA land and to terminate a few hundred metres East of Dundas Peak.

Thank you for Accepting this letter from a member,
Marc Broe-Vayda

For Immediate Release:

HCA Announces Official Opening of the Saltfleet Conservation Area

HCA is pleased to announce the official opening of the Saltfleet Conservation Area to the public on September 4, 2021. The Saltfleet Conservation Area, located south of the Niagara Escarpment in the Upper Stoney Creek and Upper Battlefield Creek watersheds, offers linkages to the Dofasco 2000 Trail and the Devil's Punchbowl Conservation Area, as well as environmental features and beauty of its own.

HCA Chairman Lloyd Ferguson notes "We are thrilled to be opening the Saltfleet Conservation Area on the east escarpment to the public which provides both recreational opportunities and mitigates the impacts of climate change. With this area, we are striving to create wetlands, and provide trails and recreation with a conservation area for citizens to use and enjoy the outdoors. "

The acquisition of lands in the area, made possible through donations from the City of Hamilton and Heritage Green Community Trust, is part of a larger long-term plan, to reduce downstream flood risk and erosion to residential and commercial properties by acquiring lands, enhancing, and enlarging existing wetland areas, creating new wetland areas and restoring the natural features and functions of watercourses in the area. Once all four planned wetlands are created, the area will have the ability to hold the equivalent of 236 Olympic-size swimming pools.

The creation of the first wetland will be getting underway in late 2021.

The Saltfleet Conservation Area will include the wetland and natural areas with an associated parking lot with a direct trail connection and safe access point to the Dofasco 2000 Trail for hikers and cyclists. This is an added benefit of the new conservation area that will ease the traffic congestion at the very popular Devil's Punchbowl.

The Dofasco 2000 Trail is an 11.5 km trail which links to the Devil's Punchbowl Conservation Area with its spectacular view of the escarpment, Stoney Creek and Hamilton. The Dofasco 2000 Trail also provides access to the Vinemount Swamp. Visitors can experience the beauty of this area from the boardwalk through the swamp, giving them a unique view of the centre of a wetland.

As the additional Saltfleet Conservation Area wetlands are developed, further trails and interpretive signage will be added to enhance public access, nature appreciation and educational opportunities.

For more information on the wetland restoration program, please visit <https://conservationhamilton.ca/saltfleet-conservation-area-wetland-restoration-program/>

Media Contact:

Conservation Area Information:

Gord Costie, Director, Conservation Area Services, 905-525-2181, ext. 168 Gord.Costie@conservationhamilton.ca

Wetland Development Information

Scott Peck, Deputy CAO, Director, Watershed Planning & Engineering, 905-525-2181, ext. 130
Scott.Peck@conservationhamilton.ca

This media release has been formatted to be an accessible document. Should you require this information in an alternate format, please contact the Hamilton Conservation Authority at 905-525-2181 and we will be happy to assist you.



Report

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

PREPARED BY: Matt Hall, Director; Capital Projects & Strategic Services

MEETING DATE: September 2, 2021

RE: Wild Waterworks West Slide Refurbishment - Project Background Report

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

THAT HCA staff recommends to the Board of Directors:

THAT this information be reviewed for project background. Request for Tenders for this project close on Tues. Aug. 24, 2021. HCA staff will review these proposals and will provide a Summary Report with the results of the Tender opening, along with a recommendation for contract award at the Sept. 2, 2021 Board of Directors meeting.

BACKGROUND

HCA manages Confederation Beach Park, which includes Wild Waterworks on behalf of the City of Hamilton. Within WWW there are two existing water slides known as the “Blue Demon” & “Night Rider”. These two tube slides were installed in 2000. Since that time these slides have experienced colour fading due to sun exposure, as well as surface blemishes and discoloration of the riding surface due to rider use and exposure to treated water. The exterior portions of these slides were most recently refurbished in 2012. With the continued closure of Wild Waterworks for the 2021 season due to the ongoing COVID pandemic, refurbishments of these slides were identified as a viable major maintenance project.

HCA Capital Projects staff retained a consultant to aid in scoping the project and to develop specifications for construction tender purposes. The scope of the project is to prepare the existing worn surfaces, complete necessary crack repairs, caulking, recoating & polishing of the interior and exterior areas of the slides.

STAFF COMMENT

On July 29, 2021, HCA staff issued public tender and specification documents for firms to consider in their bids. This has been advertised publicly through the online Biddingo public tender web service and sent to a variety of specific contractors who specialize in this type of work. A recommended site meeting for bidders was held on Aug. 11, 2021 to go over project specifics and address any questions the contractors had.

Tenders officially closed on Aug. 24, 2021 @ 1:00 p.m. A two-stage tender opening process followed in order to pre-qualify suitable contractors for the specialized work involved. Step 1 Qualification Packages were opened on Aug. 24, 2021 @ 1:05 p.m. Step 2 Cost Packages were opened on Aug. 31, 2021 @ 1:00 p.m. Both openings were available for public viewing online via HCA's Youtube channel.

Anticipated Project Schedule is as follows:

Aug. 24, 2021 @ 1:00 P.M.	-	Tender Closing
Sept. 3, 2021	-	Anticipated Tender Award
Sept. 7, 2021	-	Anticipated Contract Commencement
Dec. 3, 2021	-	Official Substantial Completion

STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGE

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

- **Strategic Priority Areas – Organizational Excellence**
 - Initiatives – support the capital development and major maintenance program to enhance our facilities and ensure they are safe, functional and current

AGENCY COMMENTS

Non-applicable.

LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This project will be funded through the Confederation Beach Park budget. There are no financial implications at the time of the background report preparation, to be reviewed after Tender opening.

CONCLUSIONS

This information has been provided as background to this project and process. A summary report with the evaluation of bids received will be available at the time of the Sept. 2, 2021 Board of Directors meeting.

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: September 2, 2021

RE: Watershed Conditions Report

SYNOPSIS

The Hamilton Conservation Authority watershed continues to be under a Level 1 Low Water Condition, which was declared on June 16. Drought conditions will be re-assessed at the beginning of September.

Monthly average streamflows this year have been, in general, significantly below long-term monthly averages. Current streamflows are significantly below the long-term average August flows, while average flows for August (to date) have been slightly below normal.

Christie Lake levels are slightly below typical levels, and HCA staff continue to actively manage reservoir levels, while also maintaining minimum flow targets for ecological health downstream in Lower Spencer Creek. The current reservoir levels in Valens Lake are within the range of typical past summer water levels.

There have been no recent or current observations or reports of significant watercourse flooding, public safety concerns, or Lake Ontario shoreline flooding.

No significant watercourse flooding, public safety concerns, or Lake Ontario shoreline flooding events are expected within the next 1 to 2 weeks.

CURRENT WATERSHED CONDITIONS – August 23, 2021

Current Water Levels in Major Area Watercourses

At this time, there are no observations, reports, or expectations of significant watercourse flooding or significant public safety concerns.

Current flows are significantly below the long-term average monthly flows for August at all five monitored locations (Upper Spencer Creek at Safari Road, Middle Spencer Creek at Highway 5, Lower Spencer Creek at Market Street, Ancaster Creek at Wilson Street, and Redhill Creek at Barton Street).

For January to June, in general the average monthly flows were significantly below the long-term average monthly flows. However, the average monthly flows in July were generally significantly above the long-term average July flows, due to received rainfall. The average monthly flows in August to date have been slightly below the long-term average August flows.

Current Lake Ontario Water Levels

At this time, there are no observations, reports, or expectations of significant shoreline flooding. The Lake Ontario mean daily water level is approximately 74.87 m IGLD85. This is about 4 cm below average for this time of year.

Current Storages in HCA Reservoirs

The current reservoir level at Christie Lake dam (about 770.65 ft) is slightly below typical levels (771.0 – 771.5 ft). HCA staff continue to actively manage reservoir levels, while also maintaining minimum flow targets for ecological health downstream in Lower Spencer Creek. The reservoir is at 62 percent of its preferred maximum storage capacity (corresponding to a water level of 773.0 ft).

The current reservoir level at Valens Lake dam (about 275.32 m) is within the range of typical past summer water levels (275.25 - 275.45 m). The reservoir is at 93 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 dry to moist, presently.

RECENT STORM EVENTS

During the period of June 22, 2021 to August 22, 2021, there were no observations, reports, or expectations of significant watercourse flooding events, public safety issues, or Lake Ontario shoreline flooding events.

RECENT WATERSHED LOW WATER CONDITIONS

The Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA) watershed continues to be in a Level 1 Low Water Condition, which was declared on June 16 by the Hamilton Low Water Response Team (Hamilton LWRT).

Accompanying this declaration, the Hamilton LWRT encouraged a 10 percent reduction in water use. This applies to all users of water supplied from watercourses, waterbodies, and groundwater sources within the HCA watershed.

HCA staff continue to monitor drought conditions regularly.

FORECASTED WATERSHED CONDITIONS

Watercourse Flooding

There are currently no significant rainfall events (+20 mm in a day) forecasted for the watershed over the next 2 weeks. HCA staff continue to monitor conditions and forecasts routinely. Resultant water levels and flows from currently anticipated rain are not expected to pose significant watercourse flooding or public safety concerns.

Lake Ontario Shoreline Flooding

There are currently no significant Lake Ontario shoreline flooding events anticipated within the watershed over the next 9 days.

According to International Lake Ontario – St. Lawrence River Board information, Lake Ontario is expected to continue a slow, seasonal decline over the next several weeks. The rate and magnitude of water level changes will depend largely on received precipitation amounts and temperatures.

Watershed Low Water Conditions

Drought conditions will be re-assessed at the beginning of September.

Report

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer

RECOMMENDED BY: Neil McDougall, Secretary-Treasurer
Nancy Watts, Director of Human Resources & Wellness

MEETING DATE: September 2, 2021

RE: HCA Mandatory COVID 19 Vaccination Verification and Testing Policy

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

THAT the HCA Board of Directors endorse that the HCA draft and implement a Mandatory COVID 19 Vaccination Verification and Testing Policy requiring employees (and others as defined below) to either provide proof of vaccination, or undergo regular testing and education for those unvaccinated staff as noted in the policy outline in this report; and further

THAT the Policy applies to all HCA employees, including full time, contract, casual, volunteers, students, membership of the Board of Directors, and citizen members appointed to the Conservation Advisory Board.

BACKGROUND

In recent weeks, there have been many federal, provincial and municipal announcements regarding the implementation of mandatory COVID 19 vaccination policies. Locally, McMaster University, Mohawk College and Hamilton Police have recently introduced mandatory vaccination policies and on Thursday August 26, 2021, the City of Hamilton approved its city wide Mandatory COVID Vaccination Verification Policy.

STAFF COMMENT

HCA has been committed to protecting the health, safety and well being of our staff throughout the COVID 19 pandemic.

Under the Occupational Health & Safety Act, employers are obliged to take all reasonable precautions to protect the health and safety of its workers. HCA has already put in place multiple safe work procedures and protocols in this regard including daily health screening, mandatory masking and enhanced cleaning protocols for fleet, equipment and washrooms. Now, the addition of mandatory vaccination and testing policy measures demonstrates our ongoing commitment to doing everything possible to protect staff and volunteers from COVID-19 as we deliver our programs and services to the public.

HCA has looked to the City of Hamilton policy and public media releases regarding Ontario Public Service policies to model our own policy, putting the HCA in alignment with both our major municipal funder as well as our Provincial reporting Ministry, MECP.

Policy Outline

The mandatory policy will require the following of HCA employees, including full time, contract, casual, volunteers, students, membership of the Board of Directors, and citizen members appointed to the Conservation Advisory Board:

- 1) Be fully vaccinated against COVID 19
OR
 - 2) Advise of a medical or human rights exception for not being vaccinated and undertake regular testing
OR
 - 3) Complete a COVID 19 vaccination educational session and undertake regular testing
- Employees (and all those others mentioned above) will be required to provide proof of their vaccination status by September 30, 2021. Those employees who have not been vaccinated, for whatever reason, or who do not disclose their vaccination status by September 30, 2021 will be required to attend mandatory education on the benefits of vaccination.
 - Proof of vaccination will consist of the documentation issued by the Ontario Ministry of health, other province or territory or international equivalent indicating individual immunization status against the COVID 19 virus. The procedure for collecting and storing proof of vaccination to Human Resources will be determined by HCA.

- Unvaccinated employees will then need to provide proof of their first dose no later than October 15, 2021. As of November 15, 2021, it will be mandatory for all staff to have received their first and second doses of a COVID 19 vaccine.
- Those employees who continue to be unvaccinated or prefer not to disclose their vaccination status will be subject to undertake regular testing for COVID 19 and provide proof of a negative result. The logistics, process and intervals for testing will be determined by HCA.
- Vaccination exemptions are subject to bona fide medical and human rights reasons and will be reviewed on a case by case basis and would be subject to HCA's accommodation process.
- No distinction shall be made between employees working remotely from home and those employees physically attending the workplace.
- HCA will support and encourage employee vaccination by providing paid time to attend COVID 19 vaccination clinics or appointments during work time.
- All employees are required to continue to practice Public Health measures to control the spread of COVID 19 regardless of their vaccination status and to adhere to all HCA safe working procedures and policies.
- Non-compliance with the policy will result in a meeting with the employee and possible discipline. Such discipline to be up to and including termination.

Should this policy outline be endorsed, a communication memo will go out to staff immediately advising of the rollout of this policy and that as additional details of the policy are finalized, we will keep all staff informed.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGE

The capital budget refers directly to the HCA Strategic Plan 2019 – 2023:

- **Strategic Priority Area – Organizational Excellence**
 - Providing a positive and safe environment for both staff and visitors
 - Support a dynamic and resilient culture of learning, safety and engagement through professional development, training and ongoing assessment

AGENCY COMMENTS

The City of Hamilton, the HCA's major partner and funder, notes the following in regard to their policy:

“This policy is in line with Public Health guidance and supports the direction that vaccines provide a high level of protection against COVID-19 and related variants. Getting both doses of the COVID-19 vaccine is the best defense against the virus, including the Delta variant”.

The Ontario Ministry of Health on their website states the following on vaccines:

“The will be an important tool to help stop the spread of the virus and allow individual, families and workers to safely resume normal life”.

LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Staff will have legal review the final policy and details once completed.

CONCLUSION

Consistent with our health and safety obligations and to help reduce the risk of COVID 19 transmission, a mandatory vaccination verification and testing policy is an important measure that complements other workplace health and safety procedures and policies already in place at HCA including daily health screening, mandatory masking, physical distancing, hand hygiene and enhanced cleaning.