



Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Thursday, February 3, 2022



Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, February 3, 2022 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. Welcome** – Rzadki
- 2. Election of Officers** – Rzadki
 - 2.1. Appoint Scrutineers
 - 2.2. Election of 2022 Chair
 - 2.3. Election of 2022 Vice-Chair
 - 2.4. Election of Chair to Conservation Advisory Board
 - 2.5. Board Representatives to Budget & Administration Committee
 - 2.6. Board Representatives to Conservation Advisory Board
- 3. Call to Order** – Newly Appointed Chair
- 4. Declarations of Conflict of Interest**
- 5. Approval of Agenda**
- 6. Delegations**
- 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 2, 2021
 - 7.3. Letter from Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks to Township of Puslinch respecting exception to subsection 14(1.1) of the Conservation Authorities Act, dated January 13, 2022

- 7.4. 171 Items of correspondence respecting the 2022 Election of Officers, labelled a) to fo)
- 7.5. Email from Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding Regulatory and Policy Proposals under the Conservation Authorities Act, dated January 26, 2022

8. Foundation Briefing

Foundation Chair – Stebbing

- 8.1. Naming Approval at Saltfleet Conservation Area – Correia

9. Member Briefing

10. Business Arising from the Minutes

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

- 11.1. Conservation Advisory Board – December 9, 2021
(Recommendations) – Newly Appointed Chair
 - 11.1.1. CA 2126 Fifty Point Conservation Area & Marina Master Plan
 - 11.1.2. CA 2127 Spencer Gorge Conservation Area Reservation System
- 11.2. Budget & Administration Committee – January 20, 2022
(Recommendations) – Newly Appointed Chair
 - 11.2.1. BA 2202 HCA Draft Inventory of Programs and Services

12. Other Staff Reports/Memorandums

- 12.1. 2022 Schedule of Meetings – Burnside
- 12.2. Voting Representatives to Conservation Ontario – Burnside
- 12.3. Appointment of the Auditor – Burnside
- 12.4. Annual Reporting on CA Permit Review Timelines – Stone
- 12.5. Watershed Conditions Report – Bastien
- 12.6. Conservation Areas Experiences Update – Costie

13. New Business

14. In-Camera Items

15. Next Meeting – Thursday, March 3, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

16. 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

Mike Stone, MCIP, RPP, Manager, Watershed Planning,
Stewardship & Ecological Services

DATE: February 3, 2022

RE: Summary Enforcement Report – Development, Interference with
Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses
Regulation 161/06 Applications for February 3, 2022

HCA Regulation applications approved by staff between the dates of and November 18, 2021 and January 21, 2022 are summarized in the following Summary Enforcement Report (SER-1/22).

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board of Directors receive this Summary Enforcement Report SER-1/22 as information.

HAMILTON REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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

January 21, 2022

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

February 03, 2022

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

SUMMARY ENFORCEMENT REPORT SER 1/22

File Number	Date Received	Date Permit Issued	Review Days	Applicant Name	Location	Application Description	Recommendation / Conditions
SC/F,A/21/92	09-Nov-21	30-Nov-21	15		55 and 140 Lake Ave N Lot 25, Concession 2 Stoney Creek	Debris and sediment removal and maintenance works on Battlefield Creek in a regulated area on Battlefield Creek.	Approved subject to standard conditions.
SC/F,C/21/95	16-Nov-21	30-Nov-21	49		33 Lakegate Dr Lot 22, Concession BF Stoney Creek	Alterations of an existing dwelling and construction of an addition in a regulated area of Lake Ontario.	Approved subject to standard conditions.
F/F,C,A/21/98	19-Nov-21	06-Dec-21	19		305 Hwy 5 Lot 18, Concession 3 Flamborough	Installation of approximately 34 metres of a new NPS 1 inch natural gas main pipeline and 49 metres of a new 1-1/4 service pipeline to the residence in a regulated area of Borer's Creek.	Approved subject to standard conditions.
SC/F,A/21/99	03-Dec-21	09-Dec-21	8		711 North Service Rd Lot 14, Concession BF Stoney Creek	Dredging of the mouth of the marina for navigational purposes in a regulated area of the Lake Ontario shoreline.	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 1/22

SC/F,C,A/21/87	21-Oct-21	09-Dec-21	40		Pt Lt 15, Con 3, Winona Rd and Adriatic Blvd Lot 15, Concession 3 Stoney Creek	Installation of conduit in the municipal right of way by directional bore in a regulated area of Watercourse 4 and Watercourse 12.	Approved subject to standard conditions.
SC/F,A/21/72	09-Sep-21	15-Dec-21	48		1865 Rymal Rd E Lot 32, Concession 8 Stoney Creek	Remediation (close-out) of a karst grike feature in a regulated area of associated with the Eramosa Karst.	Approved subject to standard conditions.
H/F,C/21/57	19-Jul-21	16-Dec-21	26		145-167 Cline Ave N Lot 57, Concession 1 Hamilton	Construction of granular trails, infiltration swales, bioretention facilities, grading and landscaping in a regulated area of Lower Spencer Creek.	Approved subject to standard conditions.
D/F,C,A/21/67	31-Aug-21	17-Dec-21	28		66 Weirs Lane Lot 5, Concession 1 Dundas	Installation of approximately 35 metres of a new NPS 2 inch natural gas main in a regulated area of Spring Creek.	Approved subject to standard conditions.
D/F,C/21/91	08-Nov-21	20-Dec-21	25		105 Robinhood Dr Lot 52, Concession 1 Dundas	Construction of an addition and deck in a regulated area of Sulphur Creek.	Approved subject to standard conditions.

HAMILTON REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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January 21, 2022

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February 03, 2022

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

SUMMARY ENFORCEMENT REPORT SER 1/22

SC/F,C/21/89	28-Oct-21	22-Dec-21	34		36 Lakeview Dr Lot 16, Concession BF Stoney Creek	Construction of an addition to an existing dwelling in a regulated area of Stoney Creek Watercourse No. 4.	Approved subject to standard conditions.
H/F,C,A/21/33	13-Apr-21	07-Jan-22	43		1280 Main St W Lot 57, Concession 1 Hamilton	Replacement of a damaged storm sewer and restoration of a sinkhole, and for the restoration of an outfall structure in a regulated area of Spencer Creek.	Approved subject to standard conditions.
SC/F,C,A/21/100	03-Dec-21	10-Jan-22	40		274 Mud St E Lot 19, Concession 7 Stoney Creek	Installation of approximately 70 metres of a new NPS 1-1/4 inch natural gas main pipeline to the residence in a regulated area of Stoney Creek.	Approved subject to standard conditions.

Hamilton Region Conservation Authority

DRAFT Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting

December 2, 2021

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on Thursday, December 2, 2021, at 7.p.m., at the HCA main office, 838 Mineral Springs Road, in Ancaster, and by teleconference.

PRESENT:

Lloyd Ferguson – in the Chair	
Dan Bowman	Brad Clark
Jim Cimba	Susan Fielding
Tom Jackson	Cynthia Janzen
Santina Moccio	Esther Pauls – by telephone
Russ Powers	Maria Topalovic

Margaret Reid – Foundation – by telephone

REGRETS: **None**

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

OTHERS: **None**

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present. The Chair welcomed Russ Powers to the Board of Directors, replacing Chad Collins. He noted that Councillor Powers is a previous Chair of the Board of Directors.

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

The Chair asked members to declare any conflicts under the Board's Governance Policy. Susan Fielding declared a conflict regarding a land acquisition proposal in the Township of Puslinch as she knows the current owners of the property. Brad Clark declared a conflict of interest regarding item 5.4 relating to 140 Garner Road East as his son has a retail interest with one of the principles of the consulting company.

3. Approval of Agenda

The Chair requested any additions or deletions to the agenda. Lisa Burnside advised there were two additional items for the agenda that were circulated to the members in an addendum to the agenda, an item of correspondence added as item 5.4 and a report of tender results that was added as item 10.1.1. Lisa also advised of an additional in-camera item related to a property matter.

BD12, 2969

**MOVED BY: Santina Moccio
SECONDED BY: Russ Power**

THAT the agenda be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

4. Delegations

There were none.

5. Consent Items for Applications, Minutes and Correspondence

The following consent items were adopted:

- 5.1. Applications – Development, Interference with Wetlands, Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses
- 5.2. Approval of Board of Directors Minutes – November 4, 2021
- 5.3. Approved October 21, 2021 Budget & Administration Committee Minutes – for receipt only
- 5.4. Letter from Ontario Land Tribunal to Hamilton Conservation Authority regarding OLT Case Number OLT 21-0015676, for 140 Garner Road East, dated November 21, 2021

6. Foundation Briefing

Margaret Reid reported on the following:

Donations

The Foundation received a total of **\$52,554** in new donations from November 1 to 30, including:

- \$25,300 for the Saltfleet CA Fund, and
- \$22,287 for Area of Greatest Need Fund

Fall Appeal

The Fall Appeal was mailed last month, inviting past donors, members of the Conservation Advisory Board, and members of both the HCA and Foundation Boards to make a gift to the Foundation's Area of Greatest Need Fund.

2021 Highlights

The Foundation raised just over \$285,000 for priority conservation projects, a 5% increase over 2020. The generosity of our donors ensured the Foundation once again met its commitment to fully fund the Education program.

Fundraising for the Saltfleet Wetland Project has moved into high gear with \$30,000 received this year and an additional \$25,000 pledged from the Greenbelt Foundation towards the wetland design and construction and additional interested potential donors on the horizon for 2022.

Tree plantings continue to be popular with our donors with approximately \$10,000 received in 2021 toward our Tribute Tree Program or to specific plantings. From these funds, we contributed approximately \$8,000 to HCA for plantings this year at Fifty Point, Valens, and the newly-re-opened Mount Albion Conservation Areas.

With conservation areas and trails continuing to be well used, the Foundation was able to contribute approximately \$60,000 to trail and bridge improvements this year, primarily in Dundas Valley.

Looking Ahead

The Foundation is finalizing its strategic priorities for 2022, with anticipated growth in donations. Fundraising focuses for next year include continuing to fully fund the Environmental Education Program, funding future work at Saltfleet Conservation Area, and starting to build the Education Endowment to a level where it will generate sufficient income to fully fund the annual operating needs of the education program.

BD12, 2970

MOVED BY: Dan Bowman

SECONDED BY: Santina Moccio

THAT the Foundation Briefing be received.

CARRIED

7. Member Briefing

7.1. Year End Briefings by Various Divisions – Verbal Update

Lisa Burnside and the Departmental Directors provided the members with a year in review.

Lisa commented she was proud of the work staff have safely accomplished through the ongoing pandemic for the benefit of our watershed, community and our two participating municipalities, the City of Hamilton and Township of Puslinch and how our work touched on all areas in our strategic plan. She shared key COVID updates, new technology we have leveraged and commented on legislative changes to the Conservation Authorities Act and HCA's compliance with the new requirements.

Nancy Watts shared that 2021 was a busy year for Human Resources and Wellness, highlighting HCA's commitment to health and safety measures, recognized staff receiving service awards and staff that retired in 2021, and thanked those staff for their efforts and dedication to HCA. She also advised on the resiliency of the Environmental Education program to shift to virtual learning and continue to be able to connect with students.

Neil McDougall commented on the fundamental support of the Finance department in processing and accounting for thousands of transactions that keep the financial engine of HCA going. He also highlighted equipment acquisitions by Fleet with the aim to standardize our equipment and commented on the innovation of the Forestry program to turn hazard trees into firewood for sale at Valens Conservation Area. He closed his remarks by noting that HCA's engagement of an external IT service provider has strengthened HCA's infrastructure against cyber attacks.

Gord Costie highlighted the renewal of the Hamilton Mountain Conservation Areas (HMCA) with new dedicated full-time staff and the opening two additional areas for the HMCA, Saltfleet CA and the Chippewa Trail Parking Lot - Mount Albion CA. Gord also touted the greatest surge in HCA Membership Pass sales in the history of the organization, and high levels of service through record attendance again in 2021.

Matt Hall shared photos of significant CAPSS projects in 2021, including the restoration of the Fifty Point shoreline. He also highlighted the work undertaken to bring the Fifty Point Master Plan near completion and shared photos of the cabins at Valens Lake, anticipated for Spring, 2022.

Scott Peck recognized the efforts required of engineering staff to see the Saltfleet wetland creation project from design through to approvals. He also highlighted the work of Ecology and Stewardship staff toward implementing the objectives of the invasive species strategy, and also creating educational videos with the M&C department to promote management of invasive species on private lands. Lastly Scott highlighted the Planning and Regulations program, commenting on the

complexity of development applications and the multi-disciplinary approach to their review.

The members thanked senior staff for their presentations and congratulated all staff on all of the things accomplished in 2021. The Chair also thanked the Vice-Chair and Board for their support throughout the year. Russ Powers commented that HCA is valuable asset to the City of Hamilton.

8. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was none.

9. Reports from Budget & Administration Committee and Conservation Advisory Board

9.1. Budget and Administration Committee – November 18, 2021 (Recommendations)

9.1.1. BA 2142 2022 Mileage Rate

Santina Moccio introduced the report, noting the staff recommendation to increase the mileage reimbursement rate in response to the increase to the CPI for private transportation and to keep within the average rate of area conservation authorities.

BD12, 2971

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

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

**THAT the mileage rate of 54 cents per kilometre be
increased to 56 cents per kilometre effective January 1,
2022.**

CARRIED

9.1.2. BA 2143 2022 Casual Wage Rates

Santina Moccio brought forward the report, highlighting the revised wage grids for casual staff reflecting the additional increase to minimum wage proposed by the Province. The revised wage grids will provide for the required increase to

minimum wage that is proposed effective January 1 and maintain pay grades to assist with recruitment and retention of staff to successfully run our operations.

BD12, 2972

MOVED BY: Santina Moccio

SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman

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

THAT the revised January 1, 2022 Casual/Seasonal wage grids for Hamilton Conservation Authority, Confederation Beach Park/Wild Waterworks and Construction/Forestry and Fleet as outlined in the November 18, 2021, report be approved, should the proposed increase to minimum wage be implemented by the Province.

CARRIED

9.1.3. BA 2144

Honorariums and Per Diems

Santina Moccio presented the report noting no changes to the honorariums or per diems for 2021 are recommended. Significant increases were put in place for 2020 to bring our honorariums and per diems in line with area conservation authorities.

BD12, 2973

MOVED BY: Santina Moccio

SECONDED BY: Tom Jackson

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

THAT the current HCA's honorarium rates for the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors and per diem rate for Board of Directors and Advisory Board, remain in effect for 2022.

CARRIED

10. Other Staff Reports/Memorandums

10.1. Saltfleet Wetland Construction Tender

10.1.1. Request for Tender – Addendum Tender Results – Saltfleet Conservation Area Battlefield Creek Wetland Storage Facility (BC-1)

Scott Peck presented a summary of the reports and answered the members' questions. The range of tender prices was discussed. Staff are satisfied the lowest bid meets the requirements set out in the tender. The initial budget for the project of \$2.5 million was confirmed.

Brad Clark inquired about any changes to the funding request to the Heritage Green Community Trust, in light of the tendered cost. Lisa Burnside responded that HCA may be able to complete the first wetland using the funds requested from Heritage Green and therefore could apply City of Hamilton funds toward the completion of other wetlands in the project.

Brad Clark requested the revised costs and awarded tender amount be sent to the Heritage Green Community Trust.

BD12, 2974

**MOVED BY: Brad Clark
SECONDED BY: Jim Cimba**

THAT the Request for Tender for the Saltfleet Conservation Area Battlefield Creek Wetland Storage Facility (BC-1) be considered for approval at the December 2, 2021 Board of Directors meeting.

THAT the Tender for the Saltfleet Conservation Area Battlefield Creek Wetland Storage Facility (BC-1) submitted by Oakridges Group Inc. be accepted at a cost not to exceed \$ \$2,020,549.95 inclusive of HST.

CARRIED

10.2. Watershed Conditions Report

Scott Peck presented a summary of the memorandum, highlighting there have been no current or recent observations or reports of significant watercourse flooding, public safety concerns, or Lake Ontario shoreline flooding. No significant watercourse or Lake Ontario shoreline flooding was expected at the time of the report. Average watercourse flows have predominantly been well above long-term averages. The Christie Lake and Valens Lake levels are slightly high, however are slowly receding as part of the on-going annual Fall draw down of reservoir levels.

BD12, 2975

**MOVED BY: Cynthia Janzen
SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman**

THAT the memorandum entitled Watershed Conditions Report be received.

CARRIED

11.New Business

There was none.

12.In-Camera Items

BD12, 2976

MOVED BY: Jim Cimba

SECONDED BY: Maria Topalovic

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

CARRIED

During the *in camera* session, three personnel matters and two property matters were discussed.

12.1. Confidential Verbal Update – BD/Dec 01-2021

Nancy Watts provided a verbal update regarding a personnel matter and answered the members' questions.

12.2. Confidential Verbal Update – BD/Dec 02-2021

Lisa Burnside provided a verbal update regarding a personnel matter and answered the members' questions.

12.3. Confidential Report - BD/Dec 03-2021

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

BD12, 2977

MOVED BY: Jim Cimba

SECONDED BY: Cynthia Janzen

THAT the confidential report entitled BD/Dec 03-2021 be approved and remain in camera.

CARRIED

12.4. Confidential Report - BD/Dec 04-2021

Lisa Burnside provided a summary of the report regarding a personnel matter and answered the members' questions.

BD12, 2978

MOVED BY: Brad Clark

SECONDED BY: Maria Topalovic

THAT the confidential report entitled BD/Dec 04-2021 be approved and remain in camera.

CARRIED

12.5. Confidential Report - BD/Dec 05-2021

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

BD12, 2979

MOVED BY: Maria Topalovic

SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman

THAT the Board of Directors direct staff to advise the City of Hamilton of the HCA's continued objection to the closure of the Fallsview ROW in favour of the property known as 31 Fallsview Road;

THAT the City of Hamilton be requested to maintain the Fallsview Road ROW above the Niagara Escarpment in the ownership of the City of Hamilton for the potential of a trail in this area in the long term;

THAT the City of Hamilton be advised that the Hamilton Conservation Authority wishes to proceed with the acquisition of the 2.04 acre Fallsview Road ROW associated with the Niagara Escarpment;

THAT this recommendation come “out of camera”.

Through discussion, the members moved to amend the motion to include two additional paragraphs, as follows:

**MOVED BY: Maria Topalovic
SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman**

THAT the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Deputy CAO and Chair meet with the City of Hamilton General Manager of Public Works and relevant staff, to speak to the application on behalf of HCA;

THAT the Deputy CAO be directed to appear as a delegation to the City of Hamilton Public Works Committee to speak to the application on behalf of HCA; and

Additionally, Russ Powers moved for a division of the question for voting purposes.

**MOVED BY: Maria Topalovic
SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman**

THAT the Board of Directors direct staff to advise the City of Hamilton of the HCA’s continued objection to the closure of the Fallsview ROW in favour of the property known as 31 Fallsview Road;

THAT the City of Hamilton be requested to maintain the Fallsview Road ROW above the Niagara Escarpment in the ownership of the City of Hamilton for the potential of a trail in this area in the long term;

Russ Powers was recorded as opposed.

CARRIED

THAT the City of Hamilton be advised that the Hamilton Conservation Authority wishes to proceed with the acquisition of the 2.04 acre Fallsview Road ROW associated with the Niagara Escarpment;

THAT the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Deputy CAO and Chair meet with the City of Hamilton General Manager of Public Works and relevant staff, to speak to the application on behalf of HCA;

THAT the Deputy CAO be directed to appear as a delegation to the City of Hamilton Public Works Committee to speak to the application on behalf of HCA; and

THAT this recommendation, as amended, come “out of camera”.

CARRIED

BD12, 2980

MOVED BY: Jim Cimba

SECONDED BY: Susan Fielding

THAT the Board of Directors moves out of *in camera*.

CARRIED

13. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, February 3, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

14. Adjournment

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

Neil McDougall
Secretary-Treasurer

**Ministry of the Environment,
Conservation and Parks**

Office of the Minister

777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 2J3
Tel.: 416-314-6790

**Ministère de l'Environnement,
de la Protection de la nature et
des Parcs**

Bureau du ministre

777, rue Bay, 5^e étage
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2J3
Tél.: 416.314.6790



January 13, 2022

357-2021-2170

Mayor Seeley
Township of Puslinch
Email: jamess@wellington.ca

Mr. Schwendinger, Chief Administrative Officer
Township of Puslinch
Email: gschwendinger@puslinch.ca

Dear Mayor Seeley and Mr. Schwendinger,

Thank you for your application on behalf of the Township of Puslinch seeking a Minister's exception under the *Conservation Authorities Act* (CAA) related to provisions requiring at least 70 per cent of municipal appointments of authority members to be selected from among the members of municipal council.

After carefully considering your application regarding the appointment of a non-elected member to the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority (HCA) membership, I am granting the Township of Puslinch an exception to subsection 14(1.1) of the CAA pursuant to my authority under subsection 14(1.2). This exception allows the Township of Puslinch to appoint a non-elected member to the HCA for the 2023-2026 term. If there are questions about this exception, please feel welcome to reach out to the Conservation Authority Office at ca.office@ontario.ca.

I note that the intent of the changes made through Bill 229, the *Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures)*, 2020, to section 14 of the CAA was to ensure greater elected council representation in conservation authorities. I encourage the Township of Puslinch to take this into account when considering future

...2

Mayor Seeley and Mr. Schwendinger
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appointments of authority members and if submitting applications for exceptions to this section, to make them well in advance of the proposed appointment in the format approved by the Ministry and with consideration given to the Ministry's review timelines. I would ask that you share this correspondence with all members of municipal council as well as the HCA.


Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Piccini', with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Piccini
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Cc: Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer, Hamilton Region Conservation Authority
Chloe Stuart, Assistant Deputy Minister, Land and Water Division, MECP
Kirsten Corrigan, Director, Conservation and Source Protection Branch, MECP
Conservation Authority Office (via ca.office@ontario.ca)

7.4 (a)

From: 
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Feb election for Chair
Date: January 9, 2022 10:09:34 AM

Jaime,

Please distribute my email to the members of the Governance Board and add it to the agenda.

HCA Board:

Please elect someone who understands the meaning of conservation. To bulldoze wetlands for industry is shameful. We all live downstream. I understand expansion but there is other lands that can support industrial buildings and urban development.

Please elect leadership that understands the meaning of *Conservation: a careful preservation and protection of something, especially planned management of a natural resource to prevent exploitation, destruction, or neglect water conservation, wildlife conservation. 2: the preservation of a physical quantity during transformation of reactions.*

Thank you,
Barb Booty
Stoney Creek.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Time for a new chair and a new agenda
Date: January 9, 2022 11:16:54 AM

Dear Ms. Tellier:

As a concerned Hamilton citizen who tries to do everything she can to preserve our environment and fight the climate crisis, I would like the following concern sent to each of your board members, as well as your current chair:

Leaders of the Board of our HCA must have at least have a basic understanding of the functions and characteristics that define a wetland, recognize the impacts that occur when wetlands, biodiversity and habitat are sacrificed to urban development, understand that paving headwaters will result in flooding downstream... and we are all downstream, advocate to protect our watersheds at all costs, not advocate for their destruction if they are inconvenient for a developer, believe in Climate Change?

What you are proposing in Ancaster is a travesty!
Sincerely,
Brenda Ginn

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Elections
Date: January 9, 2022 3:36:45 PM

I sincerely hope that the next set of elections for the Conservation Authority results in people who understand why "conservation: is in the name of the board. Urban sprawl is not a reason for allowing developments to be built. If Hamilton is so hot for a LRT system to move people, then make housing along the LRT route the priority, not buildingdeveloping out where every family will require two vehicles in order to exist.

Peter Gauthier
Hamilton ON

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Leadership
Date: January 9, 2022 6:32:12 PM

I am writing about new membership in the HCA. I believe the people should have a basic understanding of the functions and characteristics of wetlands. And be aware of the impacts that occur when wetlands, biodiversity and habitat are sacrificed to urban development.

They should understand that when you pave headwaters etc, leads to flooding downstream. Hamilton gets a lot of flooding.

HCA should advocate to protect wetlands at all costs. Not "move" them for developers.

I think Lloyd Ferguson does not get most of this.

Please distribute my email to the other members.

Remember - when it's gone we don't get it back.

Myfanwy Armes

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: HCA Leadership
Date: January 9, 2022 8:43:18 PM

Dear Jaime,
Happy New Year and I hope this finds you well.

Kindly distribute my letter below to the members of the Governance Board at the HCA and add it to the agenda for the Feb 3, 2022 meeting.

Dear Governance Board members,

I am writing to you as a member of the HCA and as a resident of Ancaster. The past year has been a tumultuous one for the CA with the Section 28 hearing denying One Properties' permit application, to Staff spending considerable time and resources to develop a draft offsetting policy which, in the end, was thankfully not adopted. All this under the shroud of Covid. My thanks go out to Staff and Board members alike who rolled with all these punches and kept the CA on a steady path. Elections are just around the corner and I know I am not alone in my hopes for the best possible outcome for the leadership roles on the Board of the HCA. I am asking you to carefully consider nominations to the roles of Chair and Vice-chair, and further asking you to consider only members who:

- Did not support offsetting either during the Section 28 permit application, or as a policy to be drafted or adopted watershed-wide by the HCA
- Have proven themselves to be true conservationists who put watershed health above all else in their decisions.
- Have a basic understanding of the functions and characteristics that define a wetland.
- Who recognize the impacts that occur when wetlands, biodiversity and habitat are sacrificed to urban development.
- Who understand that paving headwaters and groundwater recharge areas will result in flooding downstream... and we are all downstream.
- Who will advocate to protect our watersheds at all costs, not lobby for their destruction even if their location is inconvenient to a developer.
- Who are well versed in the effects of climate change and its potential impact on our watersheds.

Please consider the realities of climate change, the importance of preserving biodiversity and habitat, and the precarious state of the headwaters of the creeks and streams that make our "City of Waterfalls" so special, when choosing the next Chair and Vice Chair of the Board.

Sincerely,
Nancy Hurst
Ancaster

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: HCA Elections (please share with Governance Board)
Date: January 10, 2022 2:30:31 PM

Hello Jaime,

As citizens of Hamilton, avid hikers, dog walkers and Hamilton Conservation Authority members, we wanted to speak up as the HCA prepares to elect a new Chair and Vice Chair. This past year's debate around wetlands development in Ancaster Creek really hammered home the importance of these roles.

Current chair Lloyd Ferguson's shameful shilling for development and corporate interests over that of citizens, the environment, wildlife, and the values of conservation, really emphasize the need for conservation advocates —not development advocates or de facto lobbyists — to fill these HCA roles.


The Greater Hamilton region is rich in biodiversity and precious wildlife habitat, and it would be short-sighted to have them paved over in favour of financial motives that favour development over climate-change mitigation and preservation of natural resources. It strikes us as a cruel irony that a pro-development, pro-sprawl, anti-conservation individual whose views have been out of step with the HCA's board for the past couple years, could yet hold such an influential role within the organization.

Lloyd Ferguson has had his day — three terms is more than enough — and it's time for a new generation of stakeholders to step up.

It is time for conservationists to take the helm at the Hamilton Conservation Authority.

Sincerely,

Yuki Hayashi
Ernie Ourique
Akira Ourique

From: 
 To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
 Subject: Mostly Politely Requesting the Removal of Lloyd Ferguson as HCA chair
 Date: January 10, 2022 3:31:33 PM

Hi Jaime,

My name is Alex and I am writing to you today to express my wishes to have Loyd Feguson removed as HCA chair. I would greatly appreciate you sending my comments to others in your organization as you approach your important decision regarding a possible renewal of his appointment.

I am of the opinion that his term extension was the direct result of developer-friendly soft-corruption, of which the people of Hamilton and Ontario will probably learn more about pending the AG's report on undue developer influence at Queen's Park.

But excluding that scandal-in-waiting, his recent advocacy for and comments on offsetting reveal two key problems with his continued tenure at HCA.

1) Lloyd Ferguson does not have the scientific qualifications for this job.

Lloyd Ferguson believes you can "create" or replicate Carolinian wetlands (in which a outsized proportion of Canada's rare and endangered species reside). He does not understand why and how wetlands mitigate flooding. He does not understand how biodiversity is essential to our species continued survival. Lloyd Ferguson is a charlatan and is not qualified for service in conservation work.

2) Lloyd Ferguson does not understand his role as HCA chair

Lloyd Ferguson believes his job as chair of the HCA is to look out for jobs and revenue.

"What I like about the offsetting policies is I like the jobs [and] number two I like the tax revenue," the chair [declared](#).

Contrast with HCA's mandate.

To lead in the conservation of our watershed and connect people to nature.

It could be conceded that there are some narrow interests that are served through wetland offsetting (like Amazon). Perhaps some of Cllr. Ferguson's ideas can't even generate *narrow* interest (like dumping **** in Coote's Paradise). Regardless, his role is to advocate for the health of the wetlands that belong to all of us. If he is unwilling or unable (see '1') to advocate on behalf of our collective environmental assets, we will continue to call for his termination from this important role.

Sincerely,

Alex Adams

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: New Chair and Vice Chair
Date: January 10, 2022 9:22:00 PM

Hello Jaime,

I am writing in regards to the upcoming selection of HCA Chair and Vice-Chair.

I am hoping you can share my message with Board members:

As an Ancaster resident and long-time HCA member, I implore you to nominate a Chair and Vice-Chair who supports the HCA's vision of conservation. Anyone who has been advocating for the destruction of wetlands or pushing for an offsetting policy should not be in these important roles. It is in the interest of all conservationists to *end* the time of Lloyd Ferguson as Chair.

Thank you
Craig Cassar

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Time For Ferguson To Go
Date: January 11, 2022 10:05:34 AM

I urge you to replace councillor Ferguson on the board of the HCA with someone who is more passionate about conservation.

Ferguson only cares about the tax revenue that development creates, and I believe this has come to light on many occasions.

Please give him his walking papers and replace him with someone who truly cares about conservation.

And please share this email, along with hopefully many other similar ones that you receive, with the other members of the Governance Board, as well as add it to your upcoming agenda.

This is an important step in the right direction.

Thank you for your time.

Jennifer Clarke-Brophy

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Election for New Chair and Vice-Chair of the HCA
Date: January 11, 2022 3:44:22 PM

Hello Jaime,

I am writing to you to voice my concern with the current HCA chair Llyod Ferguson and in regards to the upcoming election for the HCA chair and Vice Chair.

Could you please share my email with the members of the Governance Board and add it to the agenda?

I am a resident of Ancaster and an advocate for our natural areas and also a long time member of the HCA. I feel that the Chair and Vice-Chair of the HCA need to have an understanding of our natural features and the how they benefit, function and most importantly they need to recognize the importance of protecting our natural areas, our biodiversity, wildlife habitat, wetlands and the waterways of our city. I feel that the current Chair, Lloyd Ferguson, is not a good representative for the HCA's mission statement of "To lead in the conservation of our watershed and connect people to nature". He has shown us recently that he is not a conservationist but instead pushes for the destruction of a natural wetland in order to make room for a warehouse. His priorities are jobs and tax revenue and not conserving our watershed. His agenda is not inline with that of the Conservation Authority's and I believe that a another candidate who better represents the interest and goals of the HCA should be nominated in the upcoming election.

Thank you,

Anka Cassar

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Conservation Chair Needed
Date: January 16, 2022 8:12:33 PM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

My Name is Nelson Da Costa and I am a long time Ancaster resident. I've seen the charm and degradation of Ancaster's natural beauty be swallowed up. Please we need a chair focused on conservation and not in builder's pockets for the sake of our children's generation.

Thank you

Nelson Da Costa
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9K1M4

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: HCA Chair
Date: January 16, 2022 9:00:11 PM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

Hi,

I'm a long time resident of Ancaster. I am writing to you to express my concern that your current HCA chair may have a conflict of interest.

It should be obvious that the HCA chair should be a champion of conservation as well as have basic knowledge of conservation, understanding of watersheds, wetlands, biodiversity and natural heritage. Conservation is important to me and should be important to all of us! We must protect our watershed and need a Chair at the helm of the Conservation Authority that advocates for this.

A Chair that prioritises profit over conservation work is taking Hamilton in the wrong direction. Bulldozing wetlands and moving creeks, known as offsetting, disturbs natural systems in immeasurable ways and increases the risk we face with climate change. HCA needs a Chair that truly supports policies against offsetting, supports policies that protect our watershed and the mandate of the Conservation Authority.

A Chair that thinks diverting sewage overflow to Ancaster Creek is in any form acceptable, an action which clearly goes against sound reasoning and science, has no place representing the HCA!

I do not support the re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson to the position of Chair of the HCA Board.

We need a Chair who has a proven track record of defending our watershed and natural heritage, and not advocating for it's destruction!!

Thank you,
Marija Da Costa

Marija Da Costa
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9K 1M4

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Conservation first
Date: January 16, 2022 9:32:24 PM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

Dear HCA Board members

I understand the HCA annual elections will take place at the February meeting. I'd encourage you to take this opportunity to change the board leadership.

I've been disappointed by the positions adopted by Chair Ferguson with respect to proposed development at 140 Garner Road East, and with respect to the related discussion about an HCA offsetting policy. I understand the 'hat' that the councillor wears at city hall, and the emphasis on jobs and taxes above all else, but this is not the purpose of the Conservation Authority.

It is inappropriate to put the interests of private developers ahead of the public interest and the mandate of the Conservation Authority to protect and enhance our natural heritage.

I fear Chair Ferguson is undermining the reputation of the HCA and perhaps doing permanent damage to what it stands for and should stand for.

The appointments made to the HCA Board by Hamilton City Council need to be carefully vetted to ensure that they all understand and embrace the purposes and mandate of the HCA. Board members may want to remind City Council of its appointment obligations, especially of sitting councillors.

I applaud the Board for its principled decision on the recently approved offsetting policy, and its decision to deny a permit for destruction (and promised replacement) of the marsh at 140 Garner Road.

As we are collectively confronted with both a climate and an ecological crisis of severe proportions, the HCA must continue to play a positive and principled role, as demonstrated repeatedly by your staff. Today, the CAs are more important than ever. It is crucial that they are led by outstanding individuals who are committed to their purpose and mandate.

Sincerely,

Don McLean

[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8P 2W9

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: New HCA Leadership
Date: January 17, 2022 8:09:49 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

Hamilton Conservation Authority Chair Ferguson has demonstrated time and again that he is not fit for the role. I believe that a Conservation chair should be FOR conservation, not for destruction of our watersheds. I ask the Board of the HCA to nominate and elect new leadership during the HCA annual general meeting on Feb 3.

Neal Bonnor

[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario l9h 3g7

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: appointment of chair of the Board of the Hamilton Conservation Authority
Date: January 17, 2022 9:24:41 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

I am a resident of Westdale who has lived in greater Hamilton for 70 of the last 74 years, including on the central east Mountain and at Bullock's Corners in Flamborough. I very much admire and appreciate the work of the Hamilton Conservation Authority in preserving our wetlands, preventing flooding in the watershed over which it has jurisdiction, and providing recreational amenities like the Christie Conservation Area and the Dundas Conservation Area. My best friend has lived alongside Ancaster Creek for 73 of the last 78 years and has told me vividly about the decline of aquatic life in this federally regulated coldwater creek, a decline due to the destruction of wetlands at its headwaters to make way for residential subdivisions on the south Mountain. I believe that the Conservation Authority should take a strong stand in favour of preserving existing wetlands. The current chair of its Board falls far short in this respect. When you decide on the next chair at your meeting of February 3, please select someone who has a real commitment to the mandate of the Conservation Authority.

David Hitchcock
[REDACTED]

, L8S 1W7

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: A Conservation Invested HCA Chair
Date: January 17, 2022 9:34:59 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

My name is Cynthia Meyer and am a 28 year resident of Hamilton. I have long enjoyed and valued Hamilton's watershed areas.

Unfortunately the Ontario government has reduced the power of the HCA to carry out their important work protecting these lands. We need a strong conservation minded Chair to fight for preserving these lands. We do not have that at present as Mr Ferguson has other vested interests.

We need a new Chair.

Respectfully,
Cynthia Meyer

Cynthia Meyer
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8S2S6

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Hamilton HCA chair
Date: January 17, 2022 9:35:50 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

Hello,

I am a concerned citizen of Hamilton emailing about the HCA chair. I am concerned because the chair has shown repeatedly that he is in favour of development over conservation. This seems shortsighted because once the wetlands are gone we will not be able to bring them back. Further, Hamilton has declared a climate emergency and that really should be a guiding principal behind the decision's that Hamilton's council makes. I hope that the HCA seriously considers replacing the chair with someone who considers conservation as a top priority over development.

Best,
Ross

Ross Anthony
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8P3G4

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Annual General Meeting elections
Date: January 17, 2022 9:41:21 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

Hello. I am writing you as a concerned citizen of the Dundas area. I was made aware that HCA Board chair Lloyd Ferguson's term is up soon and there will be nominations for a new chair. I want to let you know that I am concerned that he may be reinstated to the position.

Throughout the time he has served in this capacity he has shown that conservation of our natural resources is not his priority. As head of a conservation authority, this seems to be a conflict of interest. Some of the most troubling decisions made while he has been in the position have been diverting sewage flow into Ancaster Creek which flies in the face of any science as well as common sense. What does this decision mean to our watershed in the near and distant future? And as I type, the Ancaster Wells, a source of beautiful water far superior to anything provided by the municipality, is locked up behind bars like a convict. This act is so beyond comprehension, and is a constant reminder of how bureaucracy can destroy everything that is sacred in this world. We need a chair that sees our resources as a life giving and essential fabric of our community, that needs respecting and protection.

Marcia Hicks
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9H6Y2

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: The REAL Purpose of Hamilton Conservation Authority
Date: January 17, 2022 9:44:16 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

My name is Rosemary Chenier and I have lived in Hamilton for over 50 years. What I have always loved about Hamilton was it's natural beauty and heritage and the efforts of the HCA in preserving these. At least I always thought this organization held this mandate and made every effort to maintain it.

I am very disappointed and shocked that any member of the HCA, and especially it's Chair, would even consider disruptive developments that would doubtlessly endanger and disturb the Hamilton watershed. It is appalling! Therefore:

I do NOT support that the current Chair, Mr. Lloyd Ferguson, be appointed to continue in this position or any Board position at the AGM on February 3, 2022.

A Chair MUST have a PROVEN track record of supporting the mandate of the HCA to SAVE and PRESERVE our watershed and natural biodiversity.

ANY member elected to the Board, particularly the Chair, MUST understand CONSERVATION BASICS concerning watersheds, biodiversity, and natural heritage. Truly, these qualities should be a "no-brainer" requirement for any position of the HAMILTON CONSERVATION AUTHORITY!

I sincerely hope these issues will be considered in any and all your future decisions.

Rosemary Chenier

Rosemary Chenier
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8S 1J5

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Do not re-elect Lloyd Ferguson as Chair of HCA
Date: January 17, 2022 9:49:01 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

My name is Rita Bailey and I am a citizen of Hamilton concerned about the destruction of wetlands and biodiversity in the name of profit. As chair of my parish social justice committee, I speak for all our members when I say that people and plants must come before profit. Lloyd Ferguson is not a suitable Chair of the HCA. A chairperson must advocate for the mission and values of the organization they represent. The chair of the HCA must be well versed in the field of environmental science and understand the important role of wetlands, biodiversity and water management to the biosphere. They must have the courage to stand up for these principles and put the survival of the planet before short term profit. Please do not re-elect Lloyd Ferguson as Chair of the HCA.

Rita Bailey
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8P 3X1

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Hca
Date: January 17, 2022 10:10:59 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

Please try to ensure that regular changes are made to the HCA leadership

David McLaughlin

[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8r1p7

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: The HCA needs a Chair dedicated to Conservation
Date: January 17, 2022 10:18:33 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

I'm writing because I am greatly concerned about the Chair of the Board for this fine organization. The HCA has always been special to me as they have been at the forefront of protecting land and nature at the Head-of-the-Lake. The current Chair is ill-suited to this role as he is obviously more concerned about industrial development than he is in Conservation. This alone should be suffice to remove him from this position.

Surely there is someone else on the Board who is more suited to be the Chair of the HCA?

Thanks for considering my letter.

William Lamond
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8H 1N4

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: New chair for HCA
Date: January 17, 2022 10:23:31 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

As a family physician in Hamilton I believe that preserving our local environment, particularly our watersheds, is essential to the mental and physical well-being of my patients. and the entire community. We need a new chair at the HCA who is committed to doing this.

RACHELLE SENDER

[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8S 4C2

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Save our streams and wetlands
Date: January 23, 2022 2:59:03 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Adam Palios <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 10:32 AM
Subject: Save our streams and wetlands
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Hello,

My name is Adam, a long time resident of Hamilton.

The destruction of wetlands, the paving of streams, and the poisoning of our environment is a short term solution that will do more harm in the long term. A growing and ageing population needs increased density for access to services. We know what happens to a world devoid of nature - a climate crisis.

I believe it is selfish and ignorant to choose to destroy wetlands and marshes, and almost every single researcher in these fields agrees with me. Shouldn't we defer to experts on matters such as these, and not to those with the most money in their pockets? You wouldn't trust a biologist to build a condo tower - why are you trusting a developer with the future of our natural marshes?

Please consider conservation over destruction. And consider this every time a rich developer tries to manipulate, gaslight, and lie their way into making themselves more money off the destruction of areas that ought to be preserved.

Thank you.

Adam Palios



Hamilton, Ontario L8N1M7

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Hamilton Conservation Authority
Date: January 23, 2022 2:58:03 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Catherine Thomas <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 10:48 AM
Subject: Hamilton Conservation Authority
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

I have lived in Hamilton for 50years and feel strongly that the conservation and wilding of our natural spaces is crucial for the future of our city, country and planet and we have the responsibility to protect what we have and increase conservation efforts throughout our region. The Authority needs a Chair who provides leadership to bring environmental science and protection at the heart of its mission

Catherine Thomas



Hamilton, Ontario L8L1M9

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: A CONSERVATION CHAIR THAT FULLY SUPPORTS CONSERVATION
Date: January 23, 2022 2:57:29 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Rick Johnson <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 11:14 AM
Subject: A CONSERVATION CHAIR THAT FULLY SUPPORTS CONSERVATION
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Good Morning Conservation Authority Members:

My name is Rick Johnson and I live in Mount Hope. As the biodiversity and conservation health of Ontario is continually being threatened by the Ford government in Ontario through various means initiated by the Ford government, Hamilton needs to have a chairperson for the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority who truly, knowledgably and thoroughly supports all conservation efforts not only in Ontario but specifically the Hamilton region. Our current chairperson does not meet the needs of the people of this area as he is more concerned about development that attracts dollars into the community and destroys our local environment than he is in the conservation of the necessary natural biodiversity of our area. Please elect a new chairperson who is knowledgable, respects the environment and it's challenges and understands the utmost importance of pro conservation leadership for the HRCA team. Thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely,

Rick Johnson

[REDACTED]
Mount Hope, Ontario
L0R 1W0

Rick Johnson

[REDACTED]
West Lincoln, Ontario L0R 1W0

7.4 (aa)

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: HCA Board Elections
Date: January 23, 2022 2:56:55 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Lisa Cole <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 11:19 AM
Subject: HCA Board Elections
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Good day, I'm a lifetime resident of Ancaster and value HCA in our community. Hamilton Conservation watershed, falls, parks and facilities are exceptional and I feel strongly the integrity of this authority must be maintained, to protect and even enhance HCA purpose and goals. The immeasurable value of HCA's contribution to our lifestyle, well being, and ecosystem could be at risk without the right leaders, in this time of intense development pressures. I urge you to elect leaders with strong conservation vision, who can face these pressures with integrity.

Thank you
Lisa Cole

Lisa Cole


Hamilton, Ontario L9g 2k2

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Election of a new Chair
Date: January 23, 2022 2:55:17 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Gord & Angie McNulty <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 11:43 AM
Subject: Election of a new Chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Dear Members of the HCA Board:

As longtime supporters of the Hamilton Conservation Foundation, we urge you to elect a new Chair at the upcoming AGM. We feel it's essential that the Board is led by a Chair who has an unequivocal commitment to putting leadership in conservation and environmental issues first. We count on the HCA to take a strong stand in protecting the entire watershed and discouraging proposals for wetland offsetting and development in highly questionable locations --- such as plans by Columbia College for student residential towers on the slope adjacent to Highway 403 at Longwood and Main in Hamilton and a large high school at the former St. Joseph's Convent in the Pleasantview area of Dundas.

At a time when the provincial government is moving in an emphatically pro-development direction at the expense of conservation and the environment, it is even more important that the Board is led by a new "conservation first" Chair who concerned citizens can have full confidence in.

Thank you.

Gord & Angie McNulty

Gord & Angie McNulty


Hamilton, Ontario L8R 3J3

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Replacement of the Chair of the Hamilton Conservation Authority
Date: January 23, 2022 2:48:44 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Carolanne Forster** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 11:45 AM
Subject: Replacement of the Chair of the Hamilton Conservation Authority
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

The role of an Ontario Conservation Authority Chair requires a strong leader in environmental protection. The original architects of the Province of Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities, formed and brought into legislation in 1946, conceived the following mandate, "Protect, manage and restore Ontario's woodlands, wetlands and natural habitat." The current Chair of the Hamilton Conservation Authority works with, and for, the development industry. This is clearly evident in the Chair's support of the destruction of the Garner Road Wetland, for the commercial construction of 5 large warehouses. In the Hamilton and GTA areas, 85% or more, of Ontario's original wetlands have been lost. And they have been lost due to expanding residential and commercial development around cities and towns. Wetlands are distinct ecosystems and they cannot be replaced by storm water run off stagnant 'ponds'. The current Chair supports the development industry, which is in contravention of the mandates of Conservation in Ontario.

Carolanne Forster



Niagara, Ontario L0R 1R0

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: A Conservation Chair who is pro-Conservation
Date: January 23, 2022 2:45:09 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Marie Covert <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 11:53 AM
Subject: A Conservation Chair who is pro-Conservation
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

My name is Marie Covert and I live in the beautiful Town of Dundas where I am surrounded by Conservation Trails and waterfalls. I live 'downstream' from Ancaster and the Niagara Escarpment so any activity in that area can dramatically affect my home and my community. We are all connected and we all must share the same goals: to preserve our environment which protects us from climate change and to promote the conservation of farmland and natural heritage features.

I do not support the re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson to the position of Chair of the HCA Board at the next AGM on Feb. 3/22.

I do not support the re-election of a Chair with an abysmal record of defending the conservation of the Ancaster Watershed. In fact, Chair Ferguson supports the paving over of the Garner Road Marsh and aligns himself with Developers and Real Estate owners, rather than the Hamilton Conservation Area of which he is supposed to be the main proponent and visionary.

Going forward, I expect that members elected to the HCA Board, especially the Chair, must have a firm understanding of this Region with its impressive and ancient watershed and a firm grasp of the Climate Crisis which endangers us all. A Chair who does not support his Board and the important work of his Conservation Authority staff of experts does not deserve to be re-elected.

Sincerely,
Marie Covert

Marie Covert


Hamilton, Ontario L9H 4H6

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: We were shocked to learn...
Date: January 23, 2022 2:47:06 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Rose Janson [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 11:53 AM
Subject: We were shocked to learn...
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Hello

My family was dismayed to learn that few, if any, members of the Board of the Conservation Authority had expertise and commitment to the crucial matter of protection of wetlands and preservation of nature. This does not make sense!

We ask that the Board acknowledge the importance of working with qualified leadership. Please replace the present chairman with someone who is on the side of conservation, not for destructive development.

Rose Janson and Family

Rose Janson
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8P 1P5

7.4 (af)

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Garner Marsh.
Date: January 23, 2022 2:40:30 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Robert Phillips <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 11:55 AM
Subject: Garner Marsh.
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

If its not urban sprawl now its the want to destroy a natural and benifical wetland, namely Garner Marsch. Those persons in the Municipal Government including Councillor Ferguson who apparently think destruction of natural wet lands are more important and likely care more for the City of Hamilton tax benifits that would be generated by tampering with nature. Don't we have enough ugly buildings which are serviced daily by polluting monster transport trucks, not to mention the added road conjection. To possibly end this, hopefully electing or appointing a Chair who considers conservation to be more important and leave nature alone.

Without prejudice
Robert Phillips L0R1W0

Robert Phillips


West Lincoln, Ontario L0R1W0

7.4 (ag)

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: HCA Chairperson
Date: January 23, 2022 2:43:02 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Caroline Hill Smith** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 11:55 AM
Subject: HCA Chairperson
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

I am voicing my concern about the role of HCA Chairperson currently held by Councillor Lloyd Ferguson. I wrote to Scott Peck in August opposing an Offsetting policy as it was based on the false premise that wetlands are interchangeable and replaceable and now I must again make my position known. As a Water resource specialist who studies groundwater and surface water flows, I am appalled that the Chair of the HCA would lobby for the paving over of the natural spaces at the headwaters of Ancaster creek in favour of warehouses on what is zoned presently for Airport related growth. The "taxes and jobs" perspective is outdated and misinformed. Flooding hazards will increase with extreme precipitation events common with climate change. I advocate for the removal of the lands on Garner from the zoning related to the airport. The costs associated with flooding to properties downstream is much greater than any benefit a warehouse would bring in the form of jobs and property taxes. The water table sits very close to the surface in Ancaster creek watershed and any additional impervious surfaces will trigger downstream flooding. The HCA needs to appoint a chairperson who understands the concepts of ecosystem services and flood mitigation.

I will not stand by as the city moves farther away from climate change adaptation and mitigation.

I urge the board to consider this matter seriously.

Kindest regards

Caroline Hill Smith

BA, HBES, MES -Water

Caroline Hill Smith



Hamilton, Ontario L9H6Z6

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Time for a change
Date: January 23, 2022 1:58:31 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Susan Wortman <[s.wortman@saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com](#)>
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 12:23 PM
Subject: Time for a change
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Hello,

I am writing to express my desire for a change in the Chair of the Hamilton Conservation Authority in the February election.

It seems to me that the current Chair, Lloyd Ferguson, has demonstrated an interest in and commitment to the value of jobs over conservation in several issues in the past year. I have also not been impressed with his understanding of the ecology of wetlands.

I am a member of the HCA, and appreciate the role of CAs in general in conservation, and the protection of nature and natural features. I would like to see the staff and especially the chair, to be knowledgeable about and champion this, over development.

Thank you, Susan Wortman

Susan Wortman


Hamilton, Ontario L8P 2W9

7.4 (ai)

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: The Hamilton Conservation Authority should have a Board, esp. a Chair that supports Conservationonon Area
Date: January 23, 2022 1:12:34 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Elizabeth Jefferson** [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 12:32 PM
Subject: The Hamilton Conservation Authority should have a Board, esp. a Chair that supports Conservationonon Area
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

I am a long retired Elementary School teacher who enjoyed teaching science especially in the out-of-doors. And I still enjoy spending much time outside, walking, studying birds & other aspects of nature. I believe even more that it is important for our young students to know about the many various relationships that exist in Nature. I taught them to understand, then appreciate these important connections that exist, for example between the streams, the animals living there, to the rocks & soil on the bottom, to themselves and where they lived.

It is extremely important to protect and conserve these, not to destroy them by bulldozing streams to create new suburbs.

Many years ago the Conservation Authorities in Ontario believed the same. Students were bussed from the city to these lands set aside for conservation purposes, where they were taught about the science of which they were a part. Often they spent the night. A Highlight of their school experiences! They would return to the city with open eyes, appreciating what existed around them and becoming better citizens.

Members on Conservation Boards should not be destroying streams & lands by offsetting. They should be promoting and preserving them. This is the real reason they were created in the first place. A very important part of their mandate!

But many have strayed away from their real reason for existence. A new Chair of the Hamilton Conservation Authority should support these special Conservation Aims, and not destroy these special properties that he/she was elected to protect. When that happens, a new Chair needs to be elected.

Please do so!

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Jefferson

[REDACTED]

Burlington, Ontario L7L 6P5

7.4 (aj)

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Act like the climate crisis is a crisis because it is.
Date: January 23, 2022 1:11:46 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bruce Allen** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 12:58 PM
Subject: Act like the climate crisis is a crisis because it is.
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Act like the climate crisis is a crisis because it is.

Bruce R. Allen
Paralegal

Bruce Allen


Niagara, Ontario L2M 5Z8

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: HCA Chair
Date: January 23, 2022 1:11:20 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jason Hindle** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 1:04 PM
Subject: HCA Chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Good day,

I'm a 24 year citizen of Hamilton living in Ward 1 and I am writing to express my strong view that the next HCA Chair needs to have strong Conservation credentials, and be unbiased in advocating for protection of Conservation lands and not beholden to the business or development sector.

Thank you,
Jason Hindle

Jason Hindle


Hamilton, Ontario L8p4m8

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Hamilton Conservation Authority needs a Chair for conservation
Date: January 23, 2022 1:10:22 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Save our Streams Hamilton** <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Jan 23, 2022 at 1:09 PM
Subject: Re: Hamilton Conservation Authority needs a Chair for conservation
To: <[REDACTED]>

SOS Hamilton,

My name is Karen Lawrence, a resident of Dundas, and a volunteer for many conservation activities in Hamilton, Halton and the Bay Area Restoration Area. Conservation is important to maintain the quality of life we have come to expect in the Ancaster, Dundas and Flamborough regions of Hamilton. Maintaining our watersheds is at the heart of conservation efforts directed at maintaining important aspects of our quality of life and will ensure our children will have the same. The Conservation Authority needs people in leadership who are knowledgeable on this subject and who prioritize our environment's health in balance with financial considerations. Conservation preservation benefits all inhabitants for many generations. Profit typically only benefits a select few, rarely those who live in the areas of planned destruction of habitat and leaves very little natural artifacts for future generations.

Recent actions in Ancaster regarding development proposals on wetlands and the proposed destruction of habitat on large swaths of fertile soil for industrial storage (warehouses) is evidence that these issues are not being addressed sufficiently through elected officials.

I do not support the re-election of Lloyd Ferguson to the position of Chair of the HCA Board at the Annual General Meeting on February 3, 2022.

Karen Lawrence
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9H 3L6

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Position of chair
Date: January 23, 2022 1:08:26 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Nancy Dingwall <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 1:46 PM
Subject: Position of chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Hello

I am a long time resident of Ancaster and now Hamilton. This organization requires a Chairperson that is actually committed to conservation and protection of our land. Having an individual at this level who is making decisions based on developer's input is not acting in the best interest of conservation. Please ensure that your next chair is vetted thoroughly and let's hope we can protect our wetlands and conservation areas for years to come.

Thank you,

Nancy Dingwall

Nancy Dingwall



Hamilton, Ontario L8V 3C4

7.4 (an)

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Conservation-minded Leadership
Date: January 23, 2022 1:05:25 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Senna Thomas <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 1:55 PM
Subject: Conservation-minded Leadership
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Dear HCA Board members,

I am 18 and in first year university. These last two years have been VERY challenging years in which to graduate high school and begin university. Hiking at the Hermitage loop has been something I came to appreciate and it was one of the few activities allowed during lockdown. It instilled in me a greater appreciation of our waterways, streams, creeks, wetlands. The fear of climate change have been with me since childhood. Biodiversity loss is occurring at breakneck speed. Highways, warehouses, urban expansion are all posing huge risks to our natural areas. I was very glad when Hamilton council voted for no expansion but whether it's demolished wetlands, expanding the city or installing sewer pipes of poop into the creek, Mr. Ferguson has been in favour of all this. I thought HCA members had to have some knowledge and understanding of how wetlands work? I mean, I learned about it in grade nine science. You can't move wetlands. Please vote this time around for a Chair and Vice-Chair who have conservation as their PRIORITY and who have never voted for demolishing our natural heritage. Thank you.

Senna Thomas
Ancaster

Senna Thomas


Hamilton, Ontario L9G 3B7

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: HCA needs a new Chaiman
Date: January 23, 2022 12:52:57 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: John Olmsted <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 3:13 PM
Subject: HCA needs a new Chaiman
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Hello,

My name is John Olmsted, my family has resided in the Ancaster area for over 200 years.

I am appalled that Lloyd Ferguson is the chair of HCA. He has demonstrated the opposite of what the HCAs guiding principles should be. Please consider removing him from this position.

Thank you,

John Olmsted

John Olmsted


Hamilton, Ontario L9G 2Y1

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Election of new chair for the HCA
Date: January 23, 2022 12:34:05 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Save our Streams Hamilton** <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Jan 23, 2022 at 12:33 PM
Subject: Re: Election of new chair for the HCA
To: [REDACTED]

On Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 3:26 PM David and Carol Moffatt <info@email.actionnetwork.org> wrote:

SOS Hamilton,

Dear Board Members

We are long-time conservationists who have engaged with and supported numerous Conservation Authorities around the province for over 50 years. We are educated as geographers, environmental scientists, and ecologists, and see the role of CAs as vital to the maintenance of safe and healthy living environments, support of biodiversity, and mitigation of the present and future effects of climate change. As such, we feel that it is imperative that the HCA board have leadership that is committed to the core role of sustaining and enhancing our existing green infrastructure. The board must be willing to resist the forces, unfortunately strengthening in recent years, that seem to regard natural spaces as disposable if some short-term economic gain is promised, as this trend will ultimately leave us bereft of the natural amenities that provide quality of life in Ontario, and expose us to increasing natural hazards.

Lloyd Ferguson has not shown himself to be aware of or committed to the basic principle that Conservation Authorities ought to make decisions based on the ecosystem-wide health of entire watersheds. As longterm HCA members, we ask that you please vote to replace him as Chair at the upcoming February 3rd meeting.

David and Carol Moffatt
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9H3L4

7.4 (aq)

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Destruction of watersheds.
Date: January 23, 2022 12:30:06 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Anne Dubois <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 3:38 PM
Subject: Destruction of watersheds.
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

My name is Anne Marie Dubois, a senior who presently lives in Stratford, On. I was a school teacher in the Niagara Peninsula for 35 yrs. I taught students that nature was a sacred gift that could never be destroyed but cherished. Canada has ample land to build houses, hospitals, factories etc..Our country doesn't have to sacrifice our forests, swamps, lakeshores to be built upon. Chair Ferguson has demonstrated time and again that he is not fit for the role and we believe that a Conservation chair should be FOR conservation, not for destruction of our watersheds.

Sincerely,

Anne Marie Dubois

Anne Dubois



Perth East, Ontario N5A 1N5

7.4 (ar)

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Conservation Chair
Date: January 23, 2022 12:29:39 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Save our Streams Hamilton** <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Jan 23, 2022 at 12:29 PM
Subject: Re: Conservation Chair
To: <[REDACTED]>

On Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 3:40 PM David Carson <info@email.actionnetwork.org> wrote:

SOS Hamilton,

Dear Board Member,

It is not often that one writes asking for a negative vote. In some ways that is what this is. I write to express my concern and disappointment about how the current chair of the HCA seems more interested in sprawl and paving over wetlands than he is about conservation. While he is entitled to those opinions, I believe they do not represent what the HCA stands for, not the mandate it holds on behalf of the people who live in the watershed.

So I have a simple request. When you vote for a Chair of the Authority, please consider whether the values held by the individual you vote for fully reflect the goals of the HCA.

Yours,
David Carson.

David Carson
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9H5E3

7.4 (as)

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: HCA Board Chair
Date: January 23, 2022 12:24:55 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Susan Yarwood <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 3:50 PM
Subject: HCA Board Chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

My name is Susan Yarwood and I have deep concerns about Councillor Lloyd Ferguson retaining his position as HCA board Chair.

The purpose of the HCA is to protect the complicated watersheds upon which essential biodiversity relies.

The HCA deserves passionate champions of our fragile and threatened natural environments.

By supporting commercial

'development' in sensitive areas, such as Garner Marsh, Councillor Ferguson has abandoned his responsibility to defend our complex natural water systems.

Please consider choosing a Chair who seriously commits to the important work of the HCA.

Thank you for the work you do that will affect generations to come.

Susan Yarwood



Hamilton, Ontario L8P1G5

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: The Chair of HCA
Date: January 23, 2022 12:24:13 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jean Jacobs <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 4:10 PM
Subject: The Chair of HCA
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

I am a resident of Dundas having moved here 4 years ago. This area has magnificent natural features and sensitive ecosystems the preservation of which are essential to the well being of all those who reside here, including residents and the flora and fauna native to the area. It is essential that the chair of the HCA have in depth knowledge of the area and the expertise to manage the competing forces in play to balance development and preservation without destroying natural features. Additionally, there is adequate space within the current boundaries of the City of Hamilton to accommodate the projected growth over the next 20 years.

Sincerely,
Jean Jacobs

Jean Jacobs
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9H3P1

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: HCA AGM re leadership change
Date: January 23, 2022 12:23:25 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Stan Nowak [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 4:28 PM
Subject: HCA AGM re leadership change
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

My name is Stan Nowak, I live in Dundas where the Niagara Escarpment embraces our Old Town on three sides, and it is our natural and cultural heritage contributes to the social and economic well-being of Dundas and all of Hamilton.

The HCA was founded with a mandate dedicated to the conservation and enjoyment of our watershed lands and water resources, with the HCA Board working to promote that mandate, led by a Chair who is pro-conservation. Chairman Lloyd Ferguson has demonstrated time and again that he is not fit for the role and we believe that a Conservation Chair should be FOR conservation, not for destruction of our watersheds. Therefore, the Board of the HCA must commit to nominating and electing new leadership during your AGM this coming February 3rd.

These days, the HCA has to be more pro-conservation than ever, even vigilant, in its sacred duty to protect our local natural resources for us all to appreciate and for our natural environment and eco-systems to do their jobs to sustain itself -- and us for today and for generations!

The HCA can re-commit itself starting on February 3rd -- please do the Right Thing!

Stan Nowak
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9H 1X6

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: election of a new chair
Date: January 23, 2022 12:22:35 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **elizabeth estall** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 5:40 PM
Subject: election of a new chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

My name is Elizabeth Estall. I live in downtown Hamilton. I am so grateful to live in an area of Ontario that has beautiful natural lands at our doorstep. Please make sure that the new chair of the Hamilton Conservation Authority cares about preserving these precious natural lands and the biodiversity contained therein that is crucial to our survival.

elizabeth estall


Hamilton, Ontario l8p1y6

7.4 (aw)

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Re-election of Lloyd Ferguson as the Chair o HCA
Date: January 23, 2022 12:21:05 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Mary Guyatt <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 6:54 PM
Subject: Re-election of Lloyd Ferguson as the Chair o HCA
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Hello, my name is Mary Guyatt and I have lived in Ancaster for almost 40 years. I am writing to let you know that I do not support the re-election of Lloyd Ferguson as the Chair of the HCA. His actions over his tenure have not shown that he recognizes the severity of the Climate Crisis or that he is knowledgeable in this area. I would support someone who has a basic knowledge of biodiversity, watersheds, wetlands and someone who is determined to save our natural heritage. Please take this matter seriously and do the right thing. Thank you for your time.

Mary Guyatt


Hamilton, Ontario L9G 5B8

7.4 (ax)

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: I do not support the re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson
Date: January 23, 2022 12:20:00 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Reuven Dukas** [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Jan 17, 2022 at 7:55 PM
Subject: I do not support the re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

I am a biologist who uses Conservation Authority land on a daily basis.

I do not support the re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson to the position of Chair of the HCA Board at the Annual General Meeting on February 3, 2022.

I support the election of a Chair who has a proven track record of defending our watershed and natural heritage, and not interfering with natural hazards at the core of a CAs mandate.

I expect that members elected to the HCA Board, especially the Chair, have a basic knowledge and understanding of watersheds, wetlands, biodiversity and natural heritage.

Reuven Dukas
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9H2C6

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Re election of chairman of HCA
Date: January 23, 2022 11:54:44 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Rob Pond** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 7:37 AM
Subject: Re election of chairman of HCA
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

I have been a resident of Dundas for over 35 years and have regularly visited HCA areas. This is a treasure of the Hamilton area and must be preserved at all costs. The health of the area and all residents of Hamilton and beyond greatly benefit from the benefits of the green canopy and healthy water resources that are and must be protected. To ensure this, please elect a chairperson who will stand up for and speak for the protection of our trees and waters.

Rob Pond



Hamilton, Ontario L9H 7N5

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Chair of HCA
Date: January 23, 2022 11:54:08 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Teresa LaFave** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 8:18 AM
Subject: Chair of HCA
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

My name is Teresa LaFave, I current reside in Ward 8, however lived in Ward 12 for many years. I have been a HCA member and card holder for many years, the conservation is one of our greatest assets in Hamilton. We need to do everything possible to protect our wetlands, parks and conservation areas. Councillor Ferguson is NOT the right person for the position of Chair of HCA. Why was an exception made for his term to potentially be extended, this makes no sense. Why does he get special treatment? Councillor Ferguson is very much pro development and in my opinion, favours the builders over the conservation of our land. To not have any remorse about sewergate, the Garner Road marsh relocation and the unbelievable ask for the Spencer Creek overflow pipe is unbelievable in today's climate crisis. Please, do not give Councillor Ferguson the chair position. There is a change happening, from our elected officials and volunteer boards, please lead on this and elect a chair more in line with protecting our land, not destroying it.

Teresa LaFave


Hamilton, Ontario L9A 3B9

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: HCA chair
Date: January 23, 2022 11:53:10 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Tom Betts <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 8:25 AM
Subject: HCA chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

I am a 71 year old Hamilton resident, and a grandfather who would like to see the world a better place for them when I leave it. As a result, I am writing to urge you to replace the current HCA chair.

Councillor Ferguson does not have either the qualifications (a desire to protect the environment and knowledge of the reasons why) nor the vision (in favour of development over protection) to continue as HCA chair. I urge the board to replace him (his term should be up anyway) at the AGM on February 3rd with a candidate devoted to protecting the environment with a deep understanding and commitment to do so.

Jobs mean nothing if the air we breath, the water we drink, the surroundings we live in, are unhealthy. The need to save the planet isn't about saving the world—which will survive—but rather saving human kind as WE will not!

I urge you to do the right thing.

Yours sincerely

Tom Betts



Hamilton

Tom Betts



Hamilton, Ontario L8P1X2

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Save our wetlands, do not reelect Lloyd Ferguson to HCA Chair
Date: January 23, 2022 11:52:29 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Charlie DeFalco** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 8:28 AM
Subject: Save our wetlands, do not reelect Lloyd Ferguson to HCA Chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Sewergate and his willingness to hide the massive contamination of Cootes Paradise from the people of Hamilton.

The Spencer Creek overflow pipe was a project that Ferguson pushed and pushed at council, even against city staff advice.

Offsetting is the mistaken idea that you can accommodate development in protected areas by undertaking remediation in another locale. Currently the HCA has no offsetting policy, rightly believing that its mandate is conservation not accommodation. Under Ferguson's tenure, the HCA has drafted an offsetting policy that will accommodate development and jobs over conservation and the watershed. For an entity established to oversee the conservation of nature, offsetting should be anathema.

He is absolutely the wrong person for the job!

Charlie DeFalco, Ancaster

Charlie DeFalco


Hamilton, Ontario L9G2E7

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: CA Chair
Date: January 23, 2022 11:51:32 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Wayne Poole** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 8:57 AM
Subject: CA Chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Hello. My name is Wayne Poole and have been a long time supporter of our conservation areas. It's all in the name "conservation", something current Chair, Lloyd Ferguson, doesn't seem to understand, as with biodiversity. To support offsetting and the Spencer Creek overflow pipe and to choose development over conservation is the very opposite of what we need as our HCA Chair. Time for a change.

Respectfully submitted

Wayne Poole


Hamilton, Ontario L9H4S6

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Hamilton Conservation Authority must stand for Conservation
Date: January 23, 2022 11:50:25 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Leanne Grieves <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 9:10 AM
Subject: Hamilton Conservation Authority must stand for Conservation
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

My name is Dr. Leanne Grieves and I am a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Biology at McMaster University. As you know, Hamilton is situated in one of the most biodiverse regions of the country. Hamilton is home to some of Ontario's finest natural areas - waterfalls, mixed hardwood forests, remnant oak savannah, numerous wetlands, the Niagara escarpment, a globally important migratory flyway for birds, and so much more. I am proud to call Hamilton my home, and to support Hamilton's many organizations and initiatives that serve to protect and enhance our city's biodiversity.

This is why I cannot support the re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson to the position of Chair of the HCA Board at the Annual General Meeting on February 3, 2022. Chair Ferguson has been at the helm of too many controversies that are counter to conservation - from supporting wetland offsetting (which is rarely successful in maintaining ecosystems at their original level of functionality) to proposing the overflow of sewage into Ancaster creek - to be considered fit to serve as the head of the the Hamilton Conservation Authority and the good work this organization does. I expect that members elected to the HCA Board, especially the Chair, should have at least a basic knowledge and understanding of watersheds, wetlands, biodiversity and natural heritage.

I support the election of a Chair who has a proven track record of defending our watershed and natural heritage, and not interfering with natural hazards at the core of a Conservation Authority's mandate. As a biologist and a resident of Hamilton who is passionate about maintaining and restoring our city's biodiversity and rich natural heritage, I reiterate that I do not support Lloyd Ferguson's re-election to Chair of the HCA Board.

Leanne Grieves
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: HCA Chair needs to be conservation first
Date: January 23, 2022 11:40:14 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Save our Streams Hamilton** <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Jan 23, 2022 at 11:39 AM
Subject: Re: HCA Chair needs to be conservation first
To: [REDACTED]

On Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 9:31 AM Jen Baker <info@email.actionnetwork.org> wrote:

SOS Hamilton,

Hi, I'm a long time Hamilton resident and am passionate about protecting and stewarding natural lands. I am proud of our biodiversity hotspot and the incredible natural wonders we have ensured are protected forever. I run in the Dundas Valley each week and am awed each time at how wonderful it is and how far I can travel without crossing any roads. And we have many similar spaces. We have this because of the hard work of HCA and the community over time. This is what Hamilton is accustomed to with HCA, nature first. I want to continue to be proud of the legacy HCA is leaving my community and am very upset and concerned about how HCA seems to not be nature first right now. It seems like this is being led by the Chair and this needs to be changed. We're in a climate and biodiversity crisis. If our conservation authority doesn't speak up for nature (and in fact works to destroy nature in some cases), who is?

I urge the HCA Board to bring in a new chair. It must be someone who cares about nature and who understands the importance of biodiversity conservation.

Thank you and I look forward to hearing about a new chair at our conservation authority.

Jen Baker
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8P 4N7

7.4 (bf)

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: HCA is a conservation organization and needs a pro-conservation chair
Date: January 23, 2022 10:39:51 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Laura parker <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 10:01 AM
Subject: HCA is a conservation organization and needs a pro-conservation chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

I am a resident of Hamilton, a city made so much richer by the natural beauty that surrounds us, much of which is managed by the Hamilton Conservation Authority. With climate change it is even more critical that we conserve natural spaces and make sure they are there for future generations. To fulfill the mandate of conservation it is clear that we need to have a Chair of the HCA board that is actually in favour of conservation. Hamilton has long had many strong voices speaking for developers, the HCA needs to be a voice for conservation and the leadership of the board should reflect that.

Laura parker


Hamilton, Ontario L8P 2E1

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Elect New Leadership
Date: January 23, 2022 10:39:09 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Linda Lannigan <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 10:01 AM
Subject: Elect New Leadership
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

My name is Linda Lannigan I'm writing you today with deep concern for the present and future of all living things. I trust that the Hamilton Conservation Authority know how important it is to be a human being who lives and breathes Conservation! I urge you to nominate and elect New Leadership during the upcoming AGM. Thank you from myself and Future Generations

Linda Lannigan


Hamilton, Ontario L8S1J9

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Dear HCA Board of Directors
Date: January 23, 2022 10:38:28 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Save our Streams Hamilton** <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Jan 23, 2022 at 10:38 AM
Subject: Re: Dear HCA Board of Directors
To: <[REDACTED]>

On Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 10:04 AM Max Brett <info@email.actionnetwork.org> wrote:

SOS Hamilton,

My name is Max Brett, I am a teacher and Hamilton resident. I was born here and I love the natural spaces of my hometown.

Our natural lands need proper stewardship that values and protects its ecological systems, watersheds, biodiversity, recreation uses, and ways which it supports our urban developments.

At a time of ongoing and cascading climate emergencies, we cannot afford a chair who sees our natural spaces as secondary or, worse, an impediment to development.

As such, I cannot support another term of Lloyd Ferguson as HCA chair.

Sincerely,

Max Brett.

Max Brett
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8M 3H6

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Ferguson Re-election
Date: January 23, 2022 10:37:39 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Ian Graham <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 10:25 AM
Subject: Ferguson Re-election
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

I am probably known to some of you as an advocate for climate emergency responses for the last 3 years. I operate a small farm in Ward 12 Ancaster since 2007 providing local organic food for the Dundas Valley. I am a businessman by training and 20 years experience as owner-operator of several companies.

I am writing to encourage you to follow through with the effective non-confidence motion on wetlands where no one voted with Chairman Ferguson. Do not re-elect him. You probably know much better that the public does his voting record, priorities and allegiances. Thank Goodness, Action 13 got this messaging tool up and running for people like me to register our deep concerns.

Not only are wetlands important for clean water, they are key component in stabilizing the local microclimate, precipitation and heat waves. They store carbon naturally, which we need to prioritise if we are to get anywhere close to the city's goals for climate action.

Chairman Ferguson scoffed at the climate emergency motion when it was presented to city council in 2019. He said an emergency is when the house is on fire and you see it and have to act fast. He can't see slow moving emergencies. He's not fit to lead one of the key resources the city has to stabilize climate and eco-diversity.

I am asking you:

- 1) do not support the re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson to the position of Chair of the HCA Board at the Annual General Meeting on February 3, 2022.
- 2) to elect a Chair who has a proven track record of defending our watershed and natural heritage, and not interfering with natural assets management at the core of a CA mandate.
- 3) to ensure members elected to the HCA Board, especially the Chair, have a basic knowledge and understanding of watersheds, wetlands, biodiversity and natural heritage.

Thank you for reading this, I appreciate hearing from you with your intentions.

Yours truly

Ian Graham

Ian Graham
[REDACTED]

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: A new chair for the HCA
Date: January 23, 2022 10:35:39 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Allyn Walsh <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 10:53 AM
Subject: A new chair for the HCA
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

To the Board of Directors, HCA

I am a lifelong resident of Hamilton, and the fifth generation of my family to be so. Since I have children and grandchildren also living in this city, I feel strongly invested in Hamilton's future. Furthermore as a retired physician, I know well how important to the health of our community is green space, clean water and air, and a healthy natural environment.

I therefore urge you all to appoint a chair who has demonstrated knowledge and understanding of conservation principles and who can support and advocate for strong protection of our conservation lands and environment. There are tremendous pressures being brought to bear which will permanently damage our watershed. Only a knowledgeable and strong leader can help the HCA protect the future for our children and grandchildren.

Thank you for considering this perspective.

Your sincerely,
Allyn Walsh MD CCFP FCFP

Allyn Walsh


Hamilton, Ontario L8P 4P2

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: HCA leadership
Date: January 23, 2022 10:34:27 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Theresa Cardey <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 11:02 AM
Subject: HCA leadership
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Being a long time Hamiltonian, a mother and grandmother I have deep concerns about the current leadership of the Hamilton Conservation Authority. Our green spaces are crucial to climate change, our mental health and beauty of our city. In this time of climate emergency I ask you to nominate and elect new leadership to the Board of the HCA. I do not believe Ferguson is the right person to be chair of HCA. Conservation should be FOR conservation NOT destruction of watersheds and lining pockets of developers.

Theresa Cardey
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8P4Z4

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Conservation Authority Chairman Election
Date: January 23, 2022 10:33:07 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Save our Streams Hamilton** <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Jan 23, 2022 at 10:32 AM
Subject: Re: Conservation Authority Chairman Election
To: <[REDACTED]>

On Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 11:11 AM David Henderson <info@email.actionnetwork.org> wrote:

SOS Hamilton,

Hi,

I am a resident of Dundas and a long time supporter of local conservation areas. I am writing to encourage you to follow through with the effective non-confidence motion on the wetlands where no one voted with Chairman Ferguson. Please do not re-elect him. You likely know much better that the public does his voting record, priorities and allegiances.

Not only are wetlands important for clean water, they are key component in stabilizing the local microclimate, precipitation and heat waves. They store carbon naturally, which we need to prioritize if we are to get anywhere close to the city's goals for climate action.

Chairman Ferguson scoffed at the climate emergency motion when it was presented to city council in 2019. He said an emergency is when the house is on fire and you see it and have to act fast. He's not fit to lead one of the key resources the city has to stabilize climate and eco-diversity.

I am asking you:

- 1) do not support the re-election of Lloyd Ferguson to the position of Chair of the H Board at the Annual General Meeting on February 3, 2022.
- 2) to elect a Chair who has a proven track record of defending our watershed and natur heritage, and not interfering with natural assets management at the core of a CA mandate.
- 3) to ensure members elected to the HCA Board, especially the Chair, have a bas knowledge and understanding of watersheds, wetlands, biodiversity and natural heritage.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

David Henderson
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9H 6X2

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Hamilton Conservation Authority Chairman
Date: January 23, 2022 10:32:07 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: George Naylor <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 11:20 AM
Subject: Hamilton Conservation Authority Chairman
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Hello, My name is George Naylor. I was born in Hamilton, and ran a business for 39 years on the mountain. I've lived all my life in Hamilton until I moved to Caledonia 5 years ago, but most of my friends and interests are still rooted in this community. I'm a longtime member of the Hamilton Naturalists Club, and I'm concerned about finding a balance between logical, non-destructive growth for the City, while respecting the need to preserve important natural areas within the city, and protecting precious farmland against unthinking development. There are plenty of proponents for development, including members of City Council, so I believe it is critical to have a chairman of the Hamilton Conservation Areas board that thinks about conservation first. To do otherwise is asking the fox to insure the welfare of the occupants of the chicken house.

Please protect our natural diversity and wealth; that's what feeds the soul.

George

George Naylor
[REDACTED]

Haldimand, Ontario N3W 1J6

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Chedoke Creek contamination transparency
Date: January 23, 2022 10:31:12 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Save our Streams Hamilton** <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Jan 23, 2022 at 10:30 AM
Subject: Re: Chedoke Creek contamination transparency
To: [REDACTED]

On Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 12:15 PM Miranda (Rand) Clayton <info@email.actionnetwork.org> wrote:

SOS Hamilton,

Hello, my name is Rand and I recently moved away from Hamilton but still consider it to be my home as it was for 10 years before moving. I recently found out that 2018 Hamilton Conservation Board member, and current Chair, Lloyd Ferguson chose not to share the information he had about the Chedoke Creek contamination with HCA staff or the Board in 2018.

Hamilton is a beautiful city with so much greenspace and nature to enjoy. It is extremely important to me that we act as stewards to keep this intact so everyone who lives in or visits Hamilton can appreciate it. It is beneficial for us but also the ecosystems in the area. Who wants to be a monster who destroys them? Certainly not me and the Chair of the Hamilton Conservation Board shouldn't allow it either.

What is the point of chairing the Hamilton Conservation Board if you will not actually aid in conservation efforts? We need a Chair who has a proven track record of defending our watershed and natural heritage and not interfering with natural hazards at the core of a CAs mandate. I expect that members elected to the HCA Board, especially the Chair, have a basic knowledge and understanding of watersheds, wetlands, biodiversity and natural heritage. These are the bare minimum requirements for the position. I do not support the re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson to the position of Chair of the HCA Board at the Annual General Meeting on February 3, 2022.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Rand Clayton

Miranda (Rand) Clayton
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8S 2H6

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Conservation and protection
Date: January 23, 2022 10:29:49 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Debbie Taylor** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 12:16 PM
Subject: Conservation and protection
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Hello, I am card holder for the HCA, a Registered Nurse working in Hamilton and am a lifelong citizen of the town of Dundas. Protecting the land, the animals and conserving our nature should be the number one priority for the Chair and Board members of the HCA.

To have any member that is not 100% committed to the conservation and protection of our land, marshes and animals is not in the best interest of the HCA. The truth is the current Chair has little interest as demonstrated by his don't tell policy related to allowing our marshes to be contaminated w/human waste for years! Then not do anything about it. How is this Chair allowed to be re-elected when it is evident to most that the primary focus of maintaining his position is for his own personal gain.

The HCA is responsible for the conservation and protection of our area, not for the destruction and monetary gain.

Thank you,

Debbie Taylor

Debbie Taylor


Hamilton, Ontario L9H 3S9

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: HCA
Date: January 23, 2022 10:28:28 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Sharon Spence <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 1:31 PM
Subject: HCA
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Hello,

Hamilton municipal government needs to make HCA issues a priority. HCA needs a leader who fully and completely understands all of the environmental issues facing Ontario today. Please, please help HCA to help the rest of us avoid polluted drinking water.

Sharon Spence


Hamilton, Ontario L8W3G1

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Those with no interest in the environment need not apply
Date: January 22, 2022 6:32:28 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Save our Streams Hamilton** <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>
Date: Sat, Jan 22, 2022 at 6:32 PM
Subject: Re: Those with no interest in the environment need not apply
To: [REDACTED]

On Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 2:12 PM Kris Gadjanski <info@email.actionnetwork.org> wrote:

SOS Hamilton,

My husband and I are residents of Dundas and have an annual membership for HCA. We have long watched in utter horror as the current Chair of the HCA has attempted to put development and jobs ahead rather than the HCA's stated mission of being "dedicated to the conservation and enjoyment of watershed lands and water resources."

It is no secret that Councillor Ferguson is supported by and has a history and career in development, with none in environmental conservation or wetlands. It is puzzling that he was appointed Chair of the HCA, unless one considers what might be in it for him. His skill set, experience knowledge is clearly of no benefit to the HCA. He also appears uninterested in learning from the staff, often voting against their recommendations.

One only needs to look at downtown Ancaster to see how he has ruined the core. Despite the potential for being a lovely village that would compete with Dundas for charm (and the dollars for small businesses that accompany visitors) it is far from walkable or enjoyable, with too many professional services and too few shops and restaurants. Ancaster is known for its monster homes, sprawl, strip malls and power centres - all with negative consequences for conservation and our climate emergency. In fact, it could not be a better example of "what not to do" for a small town.

The HCA could be much better served with someone in the Chair position who, even if they don't have the expertise or background in conservation, is interested in driving the HCA's mission forward, rather than their own.

Warm regards,
Kris and Emil Gadjanski
Dundas, Ontario

Kris Gadjanski
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9H 4E6

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: HCA Board selection
Date: January 22, 2022 6:30:25 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Save our Streams Hamilton** <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>
Date: Sat, Jan 22, 2022 at 6:29 PM
Subject: Re: HCA Board selection
To: <[REDACTED]>

On Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 2:37 PM william oates [REDACTED] wrote:

SOS Hamilton,

Hello

I am a long time resident of Dundas Ontario and use the Conservation area for recreational purposes almost every day. But EVERY DAY, I depend on the the Authority to be managing the watersheds - especially Spencer Creek in whose watershed I reside.

It is time for us to take seriously the need for us to respect all life and especially that of our local community. There is no conflict between jobs and nature. Without nature there will be no jobs. When we focus on a quick buck, we are merely stealing from our children.

Enough, elect someone who cares enough about conservation to actually lead the conservation authority.

Respectfully

wm

william oates
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9H2N8

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Elect a conservation minded Board of Directors!
Date: January 22, 2022 6:27:43 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Judy Snider** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 2:49 PM
Subject: Elect a conservation minded Board of Directors!
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Hello,

I'm a local Hamiltonian who values highly our conservation assets. I believe we should be working to preserve them! I want to see the governing body that oversees our important natural areas to be conservation minded!!

Therefore:

I do not support the re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson to the position of Chair of the HCA Board at the Annual General Meeting on February 3, 2022.

I support the election of a Chair who has a proven track record of defending our watershed and natural heritage, and not interfering with natural hazards at the core of a CAs mandate.

I expect that members elected to the HCA Board, especially the Chair, have a basic knowledge and understanding of watersheds, wetlands, biodiversity and natural heritage.

Many thanks for your consideration,
Judy Snider

Judy Snider
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8L 3T3

From: [nature](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: Leadership
Date: January 18, 2022 3:17:09 PM

Please see below.

Randall Kovacs
Reception
Hamilton Conservation Authority
Phone: 905-525-2181 ext 100

The contents of this e-mail and any attachments are intended for the named recipient(s). This e-mail may contain information that is privileged and confidential. If you have received this message in error or are not the named recipient(s), please notify the sender and permanently delete this message without reviewing, copying, forwarding, disclosing or otherwise using it or any part of it in any form whatsoever. Thank you.

-----Original Message-----

From: Elizabeth Robinson [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 3:16 PM
To: nature <nature@conservationhamilton.ca>
Subject: Re: Leadership

I could not believe Lloyd Ferguson was on the board, let alone the chair.
Loves agriculture and developers, but not sure he is the best person to be protecting our beautiful lands and waterways, which are in abundance in Hamilton.

In response to the op-ed in THE SPEC, sending my word of caution to HCA.
Please choose wisely. With awesome powers, comes great responsibility.

Concerned citizen
Elizabeth Robinson

Sent from my iPad

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: The HCA deserves a Chair focused on conservation
Date: January 22, 2022 6:27:11 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cameron Kroetsch** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 3:32 PM
Subject: The HCA deserves a Chair focused on conservation
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

It goes without saying that many in our communities, myself included, expect the Hamilton Conversation Authority's main goal to be about the conservation of our local environment. I don't think that's Councillor Lloyd Ferguson's primary goal. I think that someone who has demonstrated that they are concerned about conservation, first and foremost, would be best positioned to sit as Chair. It's an important role and one that should be taken seriously. I hope, as the composition of the Board changes in the coming year, especially after the next municipal election, a citizen member will consider running for the position.

Cameron Kroetsch

Cameron Kroetsch


Hamilton, Ontario L8P 0A4

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Hamilton needs a new HCA chair
Date: January 22, 2022 6:22:51 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Save our Streams Hamilton** <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>
Date: Sat, Jan 22, 2022 at 6:22 PM
Subject: Re: Hamilton needs a new HCA chair
To: <[REDACTED]>

On Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 4:08 PM Ria Kleiman <info@email.actionnetwork.org> wrote:

SOS Hamilton,

I believe a new chair for the HCA is needed because our current one has proven that he does not truly support a conservation mandate. With an ongoing and worsening climate catastrophe, protecting wetlands and other "undeveloped" natural areas is essential. These natural areas can be carbon sinks, habitats for wonderful different species, and places of recreation that draw in tourists and improve residents' mental and physical health. Additionally, a new chair should support the democratic process and community engagement - residents exercising their rights by involving themselves in public conservation authority proceedings should be encouraged, not mocked. Lastly, the chair should value the expertise of HCA staff who were trained in these matters. As a young Hamiltonian whose future is compromised by the climate crisis, an animal-lover, and an enthusiast of development that is sustainable and just, I urge you to consider a replacement for the Chair of the HCA immediately.

Ria Kleiman
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8P 3M4

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: need for a pro-conservation chair
Date: January 22, 2022 6:20:53 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Save our Streams Hamilton** <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>
Date: Sat, Jan 22, 2022 at 6:20 PM
Subject: Re: need for a pro-conservation chair
To: [REDACTED]

On Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 5:05 PM Wendy Coleman <info@email.actionnetwork.org> wrote:

SOS Hamilton,

I when I moved to Hamilton in 1997, it didn't take long for me to learn of the RBG, BTA, and HCA. Weekly, I am out enjoying one or more of these amazing areas. I support these conservation organizations, as well as others, financially because we need them to continue to thrive and even expand. We need to protect the watershed. We need to protect the green spaces and all the flora and fauna in them. We need them now and we need them for future generations.

We need to continue upholding the mandate to conserve these areas and not be persuaded that off-setting is a justifiable compromise. All private citizens and industries must make changes to protect the environment. Having a Chair that is not pro-conservation does not envision the future good of citizens or the environment, but is rather a short-sighted and limited view of what it means for all to thrive.

Developers are only too happy to carry on with the status-quo. They will not get creative with alternatives for density if they are given the green light to take the easy and more familiar route of urban sprawl and building over wetlands, all in the name of jobs.

We need a Chair that will champion the HCA's conservation mandate. We need a leader with a vision for these new times. This is not Lloyd Ferguson, who is always willing to compromise conservation for thoughtless development. He remains proud to have kept Sewergate secret from Hamiltonians. He approves building on wetlands. His track record demonstrates no vision for a future environment in which Hamiltonians can thrive.

Sincerely,
Wendy Coleman

Wendy Coleman
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8S 3K9

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Conserving our conservation areas.
Date: January 22, 2022 6:19:03 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Caroline Fehr** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 5:36 PM
Subject: Conserving our conservation areas.
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Hi, My name is Caroline Fehr. We have been members of Hamilton Conservation for over a decade and love the parks. We know how important it is to have Conservation Board members that promote existing conservation areas and lobby for an increase in conservation areas. Board members that wish to accommodate development and jobs over conservation and the watershed should be prohibited from standing as a Conservation Board Member. Please remove Ancaster councillor Lloyd Ferguson from this board as he is an egregious example of the above.

Caroline Fehr


Hamilton, Ontario l8m 2x3

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Chair of HCA Should be a Strong Advocate for Conservation and the Environment
Date: January 22, 2022 6:17:35 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Save our Streams Hamilton** <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>
Date: Sat, Jan 22, 2022 at 6:17 PM
Subject: Re: Chair of HCA Should be a Strong Advocate for Conservation and the Environment
To: [REDACTED]

On Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 5:39 PM Sandra Manners <[REDACTED]> wrote:

SOS Hamilton,

Hello,

I understand the Board of Directors of the Hamilton Conservation Authority will soon be selecting a new Chair and I would like to make my views known on this topic.

I am a strategic communications professional who has lived and worked in Hamilton for more than 30 years. I love the fact that Hamilton boasts many beautiful conservation areas and waterways. I have enjoyed spending time in many of Hamilton's natural areas over the years - individually, as a family and by organizing company picnics for hundreds of attendees to take place in the conservation areas. In organizing these sorts of large corporate events, it was my intention to introduce employees and their families to conservation areas that many had never before visited. Everyone was always so impressed with natural settings for our company picnics.

I understand the the value and importance of protecting our conservation areas and watershed and firmly believe that the HCA must have an advocate for conservation and the environment at its helm. Unfortunately, Councillor Ferguson's track record on these sorts of issues does not fit that bill.

Therefore, I do not support the re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson to the position of Chair of the HCA Board at the Annual General Meeting on February 2, 2022.

I would strongly urge the Board to select a more suitable candidate to serve as Chair for the next two years: one who has a basic knowledge and understanding of watersheds, wetlands, biodiversity and environmental issues and who has a proven track record of defending Hamilton's watershed and natural areas.

Thank you for your time.

Sandra Manners

Sandra Manners
[REDACTED]

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Time for new blood on the HCA board
Date: January 22, 2022 6:03:24 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Lisa Chevalier** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 6:11 PM
Subject: Time for new blood on the HCA board
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Dear HCA board members and executives. As a citizen of this beautiful city, I ask you...
why would you choose to continue the tenure of board members who do not expound and
protect the meaning of 'conservation' in our fair city?

Is this not the mission they have been elected too?

We the people demand that all current and new members of the HCA board remember their
commitment to conservation of the lands we have entrusted to them.

Lisa Chevalier



Hamilton, Ontario L8P 2N4

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Conservation Chair Should Care About Conservation
Date: January 22, 2022 6:02:53 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Duncan Forster** [REDACTED]
Date: Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 7:51 PM
Subject: Conservation Chair Should Care About Conservation
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

I have lived in Ancaster for 27 years and have seen the gradual loss of green spaces to development. Once land is developed, it will stay developed, effectively forever. We need to preserve our wetlands and ecologically sensitive areas, as they cannot be replaced. It is an inherent conflict of interest that Chair Ferguson, who has clear ties to the development industry, should be in charge of the conservation authority.

Please rectify this conflict by removing Chair Ferguson from his position.

Duncan Forster
[REDACTED]

Niagara, Ontario L0R1R0

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Please elect a different chair!
Date: January 22, 2022 5:52:18 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sandra Emery** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 8:25 PM
Subject: Please elect a different chair!
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

I am a long time Dundas resident and I implore you to nominate and elect a different HCA chair. Mr Ferguson has shown himself to be more interested in development and the economy than in preserving the natural world. We need someone in that position whose values, skills and knowledge are in line with a progressive appreciation for the environment and who understands the value of conserving, not exploiting, the environment.

Sandra Emery



Hamilton, Ontario L9H 4S9

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Upcoming Election of Chair
Date: January 22, 2022 5:59:08 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Anne Pedersen <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 9:26 PM
Subject: Upcoming Election of Chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

As a mother and constituent in ward 13, I am writing to you to voice my deep concern of how chairman Lloyd Ferguson has managed his position as Chair of your board and strongly discourage you from re-electing him!

First of all, to have a chair that does not even know how wetlands work-that there is a reason why they are where they are and that they can not just be "moved" is downright embarrassing to HCA and certainly sow deep doubt in our minds that you have our watershed's best interest in mind!

From wanting to "offset" wetlands to allow residential waste water into Ancaster Creek, Lloyd Ferguson does not have any concerns for conservation efforts.

To me it is clear, that having Lloyd Ferguson as Chair of the HCA board, is a matter of conflict of interest. Having a Chair with such strong ties to developers and pro-sprawl is simply not ethical and I would argue that re-electing Lloyd Ferguson will put HCA at risk of having to face the consequences of such conflict of interest!

Please make the right choice on Feb 3rd. Please ensure to elect a Chair who has a proven track record of defending our watershed and natural heritage, and not interfering with natural hazards. Lloyd Ferguson has proven to lack basic knowledge and understanding of watersheds, wetlands, biodiversity and natural heritage. Make sure you do not make the same mistake with the next Chair of HCA board.

Thank you for your time,
Anne Pedersen, Linington Trail, Dundas

Anne Pedersen


Hamilton, Ontario L9H6Z5

7.4 (cd)

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: New Chair
Date: January 22, 2022 5:51:49 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: peter appleton <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 18, 2022 at 10:58 PM
Subject: New Chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Good day

Its time that we took conservation seriously and not back down when our watershed is in threat.


Its time to use the powers we have to stop urban sprawl and useless land grabs by developers when our city core has tons of space to develop.

Its time to make sure the most important issue of our time climate change is the first on every single agenda.

Its time for a new Chair

yours very truly

Peter Appleton

peter appleton


, l9h1n2

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Chair Ferguson
Date: January 22, 2022 5:51:30 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Save our Streams Hamilton** <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>
Date: Sat, Jan 22, 2022 at 5:51 PM
Subject: Re: Chair Ferguson
To: <[REDACTED]>

On Wed, Jan 19, 2022 at 8:17 AM Craig Burley <info@email.actionnetwork.org> wrote:

SOS Hamilton,

My name is Craig Burley, and many of you will have had letters from me before, in this context or others. I live in West Hamilton, one minute's walk from Chedoke Creek.

While I am appalled at Clr Ferguson's support for watershed destruction and his inability to understand the purpose and mission of the HCA, and believe he should not be re-elected as Chair, I am most concerned for the safeguarding failure he led you into from his failure to properly report and document the damaging sewage leak into the HCA's watershed that occurred in the years up to 2018. Clr Ferguson deliberately misled you all and you should not stand for it.

No action so hostile against our watershed has been done in all the years of the HCA, as Hamilton's deliberately callous failure to properly safeguard its overflow facility. This was compounded by the ongoing failure of Clr Ferguson among others to fail to notify the HCA of the issue. This man does not care about this body or its public trust. He should not be re-elected as Chair.

Craig Burley

Craig Burley
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8S 1Y1

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: For the HCA Board of Directors
Date: January 19, 2022 8:53:15 AM

Hi Jaime,

Could you please direct my email to the HCA Board of Directors at the February 3rd meeting where they will elect a new Board Chair.

As a concerned citizen, I would ask the Board to refrain from re-electing Lloyd Ferguson, and instead elect a member to serve as Chair who understands the importance of maintaining our natural environment and agricultural lands.

Counsellor Ferguson has lost the trust of the community. He is clearly in a conflict of interest between the mandate of the HCA and his political donors.

Some of his affronts to nature include:

- his attempt to cover-up the contamination of Cootes Paradise
- the Spencer Creek overflow pipe project and his failure to protect the natural environment
- his obsession with developing an offsetting policy to accommodate development in protected areas, such as the Garner Road marshland. This goes against the basic concept of conservation

As a member of the HCA, I request better leadership from the Board with a real commitment to our natural environment.

Sincerely,

Andrea Colbert-DeGeit

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Chair position of the HCA
Date: January 22, 2022 5:47:42 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Barbara Howe** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Wed, Jan 19, 2022 at 8:58 AM
Subject: Chair position of the HCA
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Hello my name is Barbara Howe a lifelong resident of Hamilton who feels blessed to live in a large city with the amenities of a beautiful waterfront, trails, waterfalls and scenic vistas. It is critically important that the HCA chooses a person who not only believes in conservation of our wetlands but acts in accordance with their beliefs. Mr. Ferguson has not demonstrated to me that he has these qualities and should not be elected to another term as Chair.

Barbara Howe


Hamilton, Ontario L8P2E6

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: HCA Leadership
Date: January 19, 2022 9:23:37 AM

Good Morning Jaime,

As a long-time supporter of the vital role that conservation authorities play in managing our wetlands, green space, headwaters, etc., I want to lend my voice to the quest for new leadership at the HCA.

Clearly Councillor Ferguson is way out of step with the mandate of the HCA, to act as stewards of the land first and foremost, and not to cave to the near-constant demands of developers, whose short-term goals will only benefit themselves.

We need a strong leader who will protect our environment for now and for the future. We are so lucky to have such an abundance of greenspace and wildlife so close at hand in the Hamilton area, but it must be protected or it will quickly dwindle and eventually disappear. How can the HCA perform its duties when there is someone at the helm whose agenda appears to be completely opposite to what most would think are the duties of a conservation authority, making the protection of our water and green spaces their highest priority? It astounds me that this individual was ever allowed to Chair such an important institution when his vision is so unaligned with the group he is supposed to protect and defend.

Please distribute my email to the members of the Governance board at your upcoming meeting in February and add this critical item to your agenda.

Thank you,

Meighan Colterjohn, Dundas resident

7.4 (ci)

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Please distribute to the members of the governance board and add to your agenda Feb 3
Date: January 19, 2022 9:55:08 AM

The Ancaster Well is NOT A SMALL DRINKING WATER SYSTEM – and you all know that.

Your board decision of Oct 5th 2017 was a lie to public - <https://saveourspring.ca/hca-board-motion-re-ancaster-wells-october-5-2017/>

My experience with #FREETHEWELL and Save Our Spring was and still stands that the Arsenic Scare started by Lloyd Ferguson was intentional to make people believe the Well was not saving, in a successful effort to remove the land use restrictions for the surrounding properties as described in Bylaw 18-068 to open up old Hwy 99 for development.

<https://www.toronto.com/news-story/7516894-ancaster-coun-lloyd-ferguson-asks-city-to-save-sulphur-springs-well/>

Lloyd Ferguson threatened to sue me in a war of words over the Ancaster Well.

<https://www.thespec.com/news/hamilton-region/2017/12/14/legal-action-threatened-in-dispute-over-ancaster-well-water.html>

A City of Hamilton employee tried to derail my plans to save the well, by attending our Home Owners Association and trying to defame my character.

<https://www.hamiltonnews.com/news-story/8107024-ancaster-well-activist-still-fuming-over-pot-venture-s-privacy-breach/>

After this episode during an Ancaster Fairgrounds Board meeting I was asked to remain behind for a private meeting with the Executive Team, where I was told that I had to stop speaking out about Lloyd Ferguson. The Head of the Executive is Lloyds Niece. Jill Ferguson.

I refused to give up my rights to Free Speech and I was told I could no longer remain on the Board of the Agricultural Society. I then resigned my position as Publicity Manager also and did not return.

Lloyd Ferguson is not the person to be leading the Hamilton Conservation Authority he is beholden to development and does not put the environment first. He needs to be removed from the Chair position on your Feb 3rd. vote.

Please VOTE OUT LLOYD FERGUSON and #FREETHEWELL

Many Thanks

Joanne Turnell
Ancaster Ontario

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: HCA Chair
Date: January 22, 2022 5:47:20 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Aleda OConnor <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Wed, Jan 19, 2022 at 11:12 AM
Subject: HCA Chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

I'm a Hamilton resident who cares about our environment and about the wonderful natural resources that surround the city of Hamilton.

I oppose the re-election of Lloyd Ferguson for another term as chair Chair of the HCA Board at the Annual General Meeting on February 3, 2022.

I hope that the board finds a Chair who is committed to protecting the watershed and natural heritage of the Hamilton area. It goes without saying that Councillor Ferguson has demonstrated that he has demonstrated a conflict of interest between his role as a member of council and that as Chair. This has led to a failure to protect Cootes Paradise and to adequately respond to sewage management.

I want the chair of this board that is dedicated to the conservation and enjoyment of our natural environment, to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of watersheds, wetlands, biodiversity and natural heritage. This person must be willing to lead the board proactively to protect our environment.

Aleda OConnor


Hamilton, Ontario L8R2X7

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: HCA Chairperson Feb 3
Date: January 19, 2022 1:23:31 PM

That HCA Chair Lloyd Ferguson is “out of step” with this board is a kind understatement. Councillor Ferguson has spent his opportunities as chair of the HCA attempting to undermine the very purpose of the HCA; that is, the protection and conservation of the ever decreasing green space and natural habitats of our area.

As the Chair of the HCA, Ferguson has, on at least a few occasions, made reference to the prospect of development and tax revenue. As a Councillor, this is appropriate; as a representative of the HCA this is not his mandate, nor should it be his focus. It is truly alarming that he holds both positions and apparently sees no distinction between them. Moreover, he seems to not understand the fragility of areas like the wetlands and ecologically sensitive areas in the Hamilton environs. His position vis a vis the offsetting policy draft is only one example of his failure to grasp the science behind conservation. Alternatively, perhaps he does grasp it and chooses to put his developer friends’ desires before his mandate as HCA chair.

Either way, it is now time for Lloyd Ferguson to end his stint as HCA chairperson. He has clearly demonstrated a prejudice against the fundamental philosophy of this organization. Please, in the interest of the HCA and its future influence, please deny Councillor Ferguson the opportunity of another term as Chair of the HCA.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I ask that you distribute it to the members of the Governance Board and add it to the agenda of the February 3rd meeting.

Margot Olivieri

[REDACTED] Dundas Ont.

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Conservation Board Chairman
Date: January 22, 2022 5:28:44 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Hugh Forster** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Wed, Jan 19, 2022 at 2:06 PM
Subject: Conservation Board Chairman
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

4th generation of residing in the County of Wentworth (Town of Ancaster), my father, Grandparents, and Uncles being very successful farmers.

I have known the Ferguson family for many decades and appreciated their input in local politics, however with Lloyd, it strongly appears that his direction is to support developers in their quest to turn lands into concrete and pavement.

I strongly suggest that this is not the path the Conservation Authority nor the residences want to go.

With Lloyd being the Chair, it strongly edges on "conflict of interest" in his unrelenting approach to support destruction of wetlands, etc. to profit the developers.

We need a strong Authority with common goals. Mr. Ferguson does not fit!

Hugh Forster

Hugh Forster

[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9G 1N4

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: New Chair for the HCA
Date: January 22, 2022 5:27:10 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Sue Carson <[REDACTED]>
Date: Wed, Jan 19, 2022 at 3:41 PM
Subject: New Chair for the HCA
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

My name is Sue Carson and I am a member of the Hamilton 350 group that has been monitoring CA meetings in the Hamilton watershed for the past year.

I have watched Councillor Ferguson at a number of HCA meetings and have not been impressed with his understanding of Conservation matters or his dealing with staff. During the discussion on Offsetting Mr. Ferguson showed contempt for the report presented by Scott Peck,. For a staff member to have to experience the chair saying he was extremely disappointed in his report must have been very demoralising for Mr. Peck.

At a previous meeting Mr. Ferguson was trying to get a wetland property at 140 Garner Road turned into 5 warehouses. I felt that as these warehouses, which would have been built in Mr. Ferguson's Ward, presented a conflict of interest. Mr. Ferguson said to Councillor Clark that "it is about jobs - 3,000 jobs, (and not about preserving wetlands). I felt that Mr. Ferguson was acting as a city councillor and not as chair of the CA; he had the wrong hat on and his judgment was clouded.

For HCA to become the incredible conservation area that it has been in the past there needs to be a new chair who focusses on conserving wetlands and natural areas rather than turning them into warehouses.

sincerely Sue Carson.

Sue Carson
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9H 5E3

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Board of Director elections
Date: January 22, 2022 5:27:17 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Janice Currie [REDACTED]
Date: Wed, Jan 19, 2022 at 5:16 PM
Subject: Board of Director elections
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Like many others, during this difficult time, I have recently become a member of the HCA for the first time. I joined in order to take advantage of the beautiful parks, trails, and waterfalls and must commend all of the work done by staff in order to keep the grounds in such beautiful condition.

I am aware that elections are being held for Board members in the coming weeks.

I do not support the re-election of Councillor Ferguson to the position of Chair. I have come to this decision after much deliberation, but I believe strongly that members of the Board - especially the Chair and Vice Chair - should have a basic knowledge and understanding of watersheds, wetlands, groundwater, biodiversity and other environmental matters in order to be eligible for consideration.

I also believe they should take advice from qualified HCA staff.

Thank you.

Janice Currie

Janice Currie
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9G 3L1

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Let's CONSERVE these key lands and watersheds
Date: January 22, 2022 5:28:58 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: David Picco <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Wed, Jan 19, 2022 at 5:40 PM
Subject: Let's CONSERVE these key lands and watersheds
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Come on!

It's ludicrous and absurd to even consider this enemy of conservation for any seat on the HCA.

David Picco



Hamilton, Ontario L8E 1M6

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: A Conservation Chair Who Believes in Conservation
Date: January 22, 2022 5:20:26 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Mary Love [REDACTED]
Date: Wed, Jan 19, 2022 at 6:10 PM
Subject: A Conservation Chair Who Believes in Conservation
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Hello, CA and Councillor Pauls.

I live on Hamilton Mountain where I have a pollinator garden, and I enjoy walking with friends in Hamilton conservation areas.

Please look into a problem I see with the HCA, namely a Chair who is on record prioritizing jobs and business opportunities for developers over conservation.

Anyone with the professed belief that wetlands can be paved over and replaced by man made ponds has a lamentably shallow understanding and appreciation of the importance of the natural world he is supposed to protect/conserv as Chair.

Mr. Ferguson is ill-suited for Chair of the HCA and should resign or be ousted before he is allowed to promote his business over conservation agenda any further. Then people like myself would be free to enjoy the conservation areas instead of having to stand up for them by writing letters like this one.

Please remove the fox from the hen house!

Sincerely,

Mary Love

Mary Love
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9A

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Conservation Matters
Date: January 22, 2022 5:19:49 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: zoe green [REDACTED]
Date: Wed, Jan 19, 2022 at 8:20 PM
Subject: Conservation Matters
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I've become more engaged in local conservation efforts in response to some of the decisions, and comments, being made by the current HCA Chair. It's imperative that Board Members understand and advocate for the mandate of the HCA. To do anything less would not contravene with the Board's own policies and procedures.

The HCA is an independent body that happens to have a lot of representatives from one municipality. It is not a subcommittee of the City. This may not be the usual for other CAs across the province but that is no reason to allow unusual behaviour by the Chair.

I respectfully ask that you give serious consideration to who should be at the helm of the Board for the next term and choose an individual that openly supports the CA's mandate, policies and staff. And one that sees value in the unique and finite natural heritage we have in Hamilton.

Thank you,
Zoe Green
Dundas

zoe green
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9H 3M4

7.4 (cr)

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Board of Directors Election
Date: January 22, 2022 5:19:36 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Kevin Hofer [REDACTED]
Date: Wed, Jan 19, 2022 at 9:00 PM
Subject: Board of Directors Election
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Conservation Authorities are charged with regulating natural hazards. Regulations are in place to both protect from and limit risk of development in and around these features on the landscape.

The Chair of a Conservation Authority must understand the purpose of a CA and if representing the CA do so with conviction of decisions that are in line with the CA's policies and purpose.

It's time for change on the HCA Board. If nature has any chance in Hamilton, the HCA must work with it's mandate. The Chair must believe in this mandate and uphold it.

At your vote in February a lot of people will be watching and wanting for a Chair that does the above.

Regards,
Kevin Hofer

Kevin Hofer
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9H 3M4

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Chair for HCA
Date: January 22, 2022 5:19:24 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Brenda Bianchi** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Wed, Jan 19, 2022 at 9:26 PM
Subject: Chair for HCA
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Hello!

In our 66 years of living here in Hamilton, our single favourite focus has been the admiration, thankfulness, appreciation and love of our unique environs in and around Hamilton. We and our children have walked every trail from The Bruce, to knowing Dundas Valley in and out and even backwards, the beautiful Karst lands where we rode our bikes as a kids, to the enchanting, magical Cootes at Lake Ontario's headwaters, and finally Albion Falls and Valley where we spent our summer days as we grew up in the Mohawk/Upper Kenilworth area.

We've not been impressed at all with the current chair's leadership at HCA. It's time to elect someone committed to total dedication and respect for the preservation and remediation (where required) of our beautiful lands and waters.

It's time for Mr Ferguson to move on.

Regards,

Brenda and Italo Bianchi

Ward 7

Hamilton

Brenda Bianchi



Hamilton, Ontario L9A 2M4

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: HCA Chair
Date: January 22, 2022 5:09:33 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Barbara Patterson** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Thu, Jan 20, 2022 at 10:12 AM
Subject: HCA Chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Hello,

I live in Dundas Hamilton ON. People from larger cities are flocking to our natural, nature nurture areas in the Hamilton area because we still have some of those areas left. We opposed Ford in favour of farmland.

I do not support the re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson to the position of Chair of the HCA Board at the Annual General Meeting on February 3, 2022.

Why would a chair of the HCA be supported who believes in the destruction of wetlands and in favour of development?

I would expect that members elected to the HCA Board and especially the Chair, would have a basic knowledge and understanding of watersheds, wetlands, biodiversity and natural heritage.

We need our natural ecosystems to stay intact to preserve what is left of them. Let's put a responsible person in the Chair position who can uphold the HCA mandate!

Barbara Patterson



Hamilton, Ontario L9H2A6

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Concern
Date: January 22, 2022 5:08:58 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bruce Allen** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Thu, Jan 20, 2022 at 11:55 AM
Subject: Concern
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

The HCA needs a chair who takes the climate crisis seriously and will act accordingly. Lots can be done locally in response to this crisis and action cannot wait.

Bruce R. Allen
Paralegal

Bruce Allen


Niagara, Ontario L2M 5Z8

7.4 (cv)

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Role of Conservation Chair
Date: January 22, 2022 5:08:33 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Art Heidebrecht <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Thu, Jan 20, 2022 at 12:33 PM
Subject: Role of Conservation Chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I am a long-term resident of Dundas, as well as being a supporter of and contributor to the Hamilton Conservation Authority. I think that the role HCA is primarily conservation and the Chair must provide the forward-looking leadership for HCA to properly take on that role. The current Chair has not shown that he has the necessary leadership and vision and needs to be replaced.

Art Heidebrecht

Art Heidebrecht


Hamilton, Ontario L9H 3J8

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Hamilton Conservation Chair
Date: January 22, 2022 5:08:18 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Pam Beatson** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Thu, Jan 20, 2022 at 12:50 PM
Subject: Hamilton Conservation Chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

TIP: Introduce yourself and in your own words tell the HCA why it's important to have a Chair that's for conservation. [DELETE this Tip before sending]

Hello, My name is Pam Beatson. I am a semi-retired psychotherapist and university professor and very recent new resident of Hamilton. One of the reasons I chose Hamilton as my new home is the number of trails and the water system running through and around the city. Access to the natural world within the city is a high priority for my family. I have been following local news closely, trying to learn about my new home environment and how I might be helpful in my community. It has come to my attention that the Chairperson of the Hamilton Conservation Authority does not stand for the conservation of Hamilton's natural resources. This seems a travesty and I am writing to request the immediate replacement of the Chairperson to reflect the mandate of the Board. The HCA must be fully committed to conservation if we are to preserve this important aspect of urban life.

Pam Beatson



Hamilton, Ontario L9A 3N4

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Conservation Too Important to Entrust to Dilettants
Date: January 22, 2022 5:07:34 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Serguei Tchertok** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Thu, Jan 20, 2022 at 1:58 PM
Subject: Conservation Too Important to Entrust to Dilettants
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Good afternoon,

My name is Serguei Tchertok. I am a resident of Hamilton and I am outraged that a Chair of a local Conservation Authority would be fighting on behalf of corporate interests to remove an important wetland.

This is an atrocious breach of public trust, both as a councillor and a Conservation Chair. I emphatically do not support the re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson to the position of Chair of the HCA Board at the Annual General Meeting on February 3, 2022.

I would like to support the election of a Chair who has a proven track record of defending our watershed and natural heritage, and not interfering with natural hazards at the core of a CAs mandate.

I expect that members elected to the HCA Board, especially the Chair, have a basic knowledge and understanding of watersheds, wetlands, biodiversity and natural heritage.

Regards,
Serguei Tchertok

Serguei Tchertok


Yellowknife, Northwest Territories L8B 1V4

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: It's Time for A New Chair of the Hamilton Conservation Authority
Date: January 22, 2022 5:07:12 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Anka Cassar [REDACTED]
Date: Thu, Jan 20, 2022 at 6:58 PM
Subject: It's Time for A New Chair of the Hamilton Conservation Authority
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I am writing to you to voice my concern with the current HCA chair Llyod Ferguson and in regards to the upcoming election for the HCA chair and Vice-Chair.

Could you please share my email with the members of the Governance Board and add it to the agenda.

I am a resident of Ancaster, an advocate for our natural areas, and also a long-time member of the HCA. I feel that the Chair and Vice-Chair of the HCA need to have an understanding of our natural features and how they benefit, function and most importantly they need to recognize the importance of protecting our natural areas, our biodiversity, wildlife habitat, wetlands, and the waterways of our city. I feel that the current Chair Llyod Ferguson is not a good representative for the HCA's mission statement of "To lead in the conservation of our watershed and connect people to nature". He has shown us recently that he is not a conservationist but instead pushes for the destruction of a natural wetland in order to make room for a warehouse. His priorities are jobs and tax revenue and not conserving our watershed. His agenda is not in line with that of the Conservation Authorities and I believe that a better candidate who better represents the interests and goals of the HCA should be nominated in the upcoming election.

Anka Cassar
[REDACTED]

, L9K0A8

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: SOS Hamilton
Date: January 22, 2022 4:47:34 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Kristina Wilson [REDACTED]
Date: Fri, Jan 21, 2022 at 8:18 AM
Subject: SOS Hamilton
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

My name is Kristina Wilson. I am writing to request that a new Chair be voted in to replace Mr. Ferguson. We need HCA members to support staff recommendations regarding sensitive watersheds, such as the Garner Road ecosystem. It must not be sacrificed to the construction of a giant warehouse.

Kristina Wilson
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9G5A1

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Chair of the Hamilton CVA
Date: January 22, 2022 4:46:33 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Sarah Hopen <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Fri, Jan 21, 2022 at 11:20 AM
Subject: Chair of the Hamilton CVA
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Good morning,

I am a concerned citizen from Lynden, Ontario that actively, uses, supports and cherishes the Hamilton Conservation Authority and the work that it does.

We know the value and importance of protecting our watershed. We need a Chair at the helm of the Conservation Authority that advocates for this.


A Chair that prioritizes profit over conservation work is taking Hamilton in the wrong direction. Bulldozing wetlands and moving creeks, known as offsetting, disturbs natural systems in immeasurable ways and increases the risk we face with climate change. HCA staff have recommended against an offsetting policy and HCA needs a Chair that truly supports this.

Pressures on the watershed will remain but sound decision making that upholds the mandate of the Conservation Authority will help ensure a safe watershed. A Chair that thinks diverting sewage overflow to Ancaster Creek is in any form acceptable, an action which clearly goes against sound reasoning and science, has no place representing the HCA watershed.

To that end I would like you to know that:

- 1) I do not support the re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson to the position of Chair of the HCA Board at the Annual General Meeting on February 3, 2022.
- 2) I support the election of a Chair who has a proven track record of defending our watershed and natural heritage, and not interfering with natural hazards at the core of a CAs mandate.
- 3) I expect that members elected to the HCA Board, especially the Chair, have a basic knowledge and understanding of watersheds, wetlands, biodiversity and natural heritage.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sarah Hopen


From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: New leadership at the HCA Board
Date: January 22, 2022 4:38:14 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Nancy Hurst <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Fri, Jan 21, 2022 at 3:03 PM
Subject: New leadership at the HCA Board
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Dear members of the Board of the Hamilton Conservation Authority,

I am a resident of Ancaster and an avid user of our HCA trails and beaches. CAs don't exist in other provinces so I was excited to learn about their purpose and benefits when we moved to Ancaster. A regulatory body dedicated to protecting and enhancing watersheds is rare and unique in this country where the vast majority of wetlands have already been lost. I was honestly shocked when I started watching HCA meetings online and realized that a deep understanding of conservation lands including wetlands is not a requirement for selection to the Board. When Mr. Peck fully explained the functioning of a wetland during the Garner Road permit presentation I was very surprised that Chair Ferguson continued to advocate that a pond built by a developer would be an 'enhancement' and improvement on the existing wetland. Was he not listening to the experts? This is the headwaters of a cold water creek? Open water would destroy this unique habitat. I was honestly confused.

Then later in the year when Staff recommended against adopting an offsetting policy for sound scientific reasons, Chair Ferguson expressed his "disappointment with staff's presentation". Disappointment? Was he disappointed in science or staff's interpretation of science? Was he expecting staff to consider "jobs and taxes" in Ancaster when examining the science behind wetland functioning? No. The job of the experts at the HCA is to advise the Board, relying on their scientific expertise. Should the Board and especially the Chair not then listen and act upon that knowledge in their decision making?

Chair Ferguson has made poor choices in his leadership position at the HCA. Offsetting and paving wetlands, marshes and creeks in the Ancaster subwatershed should be avoided at all costs and the chair should be the first person to act in their defence. Instead Chair Ferguson acts in the interests of developers. Chair Ferguson is the architect of the AEGD and I believe his agenda is to get as many development applications passed for the area as possible. This is a conflict in my mind.

Members, please talk amongst yourselves and be fearless in nominating and electing new

leadership to this Board. After the sewergate fiasco I suspect people in Hamilton will be paying attention to who continues to support a chair who is not conservation minded.

Thank you for the work that you do for the HCA. I hope that it can be made even better.

Sincerely,
Nancy Hurst
Ancaster

Nancy Hurst

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Nancy Hurst.

Ancaster, Ontario L9G 3B7

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Chairman Ferguson
Date: January 22, 2022 4:37:17 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jesse Hudecki** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Fri, Jan 21, 2022 at 4:53 PM
Subject: Chairman Ferguson
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

My name is Jesse Hudecki - I've been a lifelong Hamilton since 1992 and have a very fond appreciation for our green space. I'm a frequent user of our HCA family pass and have hiked the Dundas Conservation Area loop more times than I can count.

I work for the Nature Conservancy of Canada as a Program Manager for Nature Based Solutions, successfully negotiating some of the largest conservation projects in Canadian history - so I'm intimately familiar with the intricacies and politics that sadly goes into conservation and land trusts.

I do not support the re-election of Councillor Ferguson to be Chair of the Board and urge you to vote against his re-appointment, considering his track record to date suggesting his preference for development over important conservation outcomes. I'm a strong proponent of the notion that good governance is integral for organizations to create positive impacts through their mandates. I also believe that board members should have a working understanding of the priorities of the underlying organizations their mandate has a direct impact on. On these two points, I strongly believe Councillor Ferguson is woefully under-qualified to be leading the authority moving forward.

I urge you to consider alternatives.

All the best,
Jesse

Jesse Hudecki


Hamilton, Ontario L8N1V2

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Hamilton needs a qualified HCA Chair
Date: January 23, 2022 10:55:34 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Lyn Folkes <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Sat, Jan 22, 2022 at 9:55 PM
Subject: Hamilton needs a qualified HCA Chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

SOS Hamilton,

Hello,

My husband and I have lived in Hamilton since 1999 and I have a Master's degree from the University of Waterloo in Environment studies, so I understand ecology. It is obvious that intentional steps have been taken by our provincial government to support development in Ontario while dangerously undermining the conservation of resources that our lives depend upon. And at the municipal level, the current Chair of our weakened Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA) is completely unqualified for his job. Why did this happen and how can we prevent unqualified people from holding such important city positions ever again? We can't afford to let this happen as the climate emergency progresses.

Councillor Ferguson demonstrated his complete lack of ecology knowledge during a virtual HCA Board meeting that I, and many other shocked taxpayers, attended last year. The important question discussed was: Should an Amazon warehouse development be allowed to proceed on top of a wetland in the headwaters of Ancaster Creek? At the start of the meeting, I assumed that the HCA Chair would be against the proposal but would be willing to hear any arguments in support of the proposal of course. To my dismay though, Mr. Ferguson's clear intention throughout the discussion was only to find a way to allow this ecologically destructive development to occur, at any cost. He believes that a warehouse is more important than a entire creek ecosystem in our city! It was really hard to believe.

Mr. Ferguson doesn't understand that if you harm the headwaters of a creek then the entire waterway is in jeopardy which in turn harms public health. The Ancaster Creek is a significant part of our city's natural waterway system. It not only supports a healthy supply and better quality of water for Hamiltonians but also: filters toxic pollutants from our water system; improves our air quality with its pollution-absorbing plant life and cooling affect; protects a high diversity of wild species including an increasing number of rare and threatened ones; supports both the physical and mental health of Hamilton residents; and of course, any significant wetland today provides a myriad of crucial benefits which lessen the negative impacts of our changing climate. We need an HCA Chair who truly

understands these scientifically proven facts and how vital they all are to our own human well-being.

During the meeting I attended however, Councillor Ferguson admitted that he has no knowledge of, or even interest in, the difference between a "marsh" or a "bog" or any other kind of wetland. In addition, he very ignorantly applauded "offsetting" (as defined in the meeting) as something that would completely justify eliminating a sensitive wetland to make way for a warehouse development. In fact, most of what Councillor Ferguson said during the meeting demonstrated a shocking lack of qualifications for his position. If it weren't for the majority of HCA Board members being more knowledgeable, and also unlike the Chairperson, being willing to listen and learn from expert presentations, Hamilton would be moving backwards very quickly on HCA issues -- and on addressing the climate emergency in turn.

This is totally unacceptable and also an insult to taxpayers who have to waste their time trying to educate our 'conservation leader.' Clearly, Mr. Ferguson should never have been given this job and Hamilton needs to strengthen their hiring and/or appointing processes. Do you think a private environmental consulting company would hire a president with no scientific ecological expertise? I'm very frustrated and disappointed by the city's lack of judgement in allowing Mr. Ferguson to hold the position of HCA Chair and to allow him any reconsideration when his term expires.

The climate emergency is real and has been officially recognized by the City of Hamilton, so all municipal government employees must prioritize that. Climate impacts need extremely serious consideration when making municipal decisions today. This is literally, 'a matter of life and death', and we need to act quickly to protect ourselves. So, why is someone who sees no value in nature allowed to direct us in decisions about our most crucial natural resources? It makes no sense! Natural lands -- especially wetlands and farmlands -- need conserving now more than ever due to our changing climate. So, Mr. Ferguson's 'develop-at-any-cost attitude' is very harmful and only impedes us in finding solutions for the climate emergency.

Councillor Ferguson thinks developing natural areas is preferable to conservation, even though allowing water bodies to be degraded in this way would harm Hamilton's water quality and supply. And this harm would worsen with each new poor development decision. We've noticed that in news articles, Councillor Ferguson chooses urban development over nature every time, and he irresponsibly voted to expand our urban boundary too. It really is very difficult for us to comprehend how he was ever allowed to be the HCA Chair?!

In this time of climate uncertainty, we NEED a person to lead our HCA Board who understands the intricately woven relationship between nature and humans, a relationship where human life depends heavily on nature for our survival. We NEED someone who will at least try to ensure a consistent supply of clean drinking water for Hamilton taxpayers. We NEED a leader who will ensure that we protect our best farmland so we can grow enough

food in an unpredictably warmer climate. With no doubt, Councillor Ferguson simply doesn't have the skills, or the will, to do this job. Of the people we've heard speak on the HCA Board, Scott Peck sounds like the most qualified to run our HCA. He's obviously science educated and understands the Board's mandate. His previous working experience at the former HCA is also a tremendous asset.

It's frustrating for us to see how recent changes have undermined our city's Conservation Authority. At the very least, please elect a qualified Chairperson as soon as possible. The Chair needs to be more in tune to what we need and want - the protection of our most precious natural resources during this time of climate uncertainty.

The City of Hamilton needs protect us from over-development today more than anything else possibly. The first step that needs to be taken is to hire a highly qualified Chairperson to lead -- what the province has left of -- our wonderful Hamilton Conservation Authority. If we want to live comfortably then we can't afford to cater to the demands of the rich any longer -- human well-being must be the priority today. Old out-dated economic models of continuous growth are going to harm us because our resources are not infinite. Please make positive changes that will strengthen our HCA again - we NEED this!

Sincerely,

Lyn Hanna-Folkes & Rick Folkes

Hamilton Ward 8 taxpayers for over 20 years

Lyn Folkes

[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9C 1J8

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Time for a new HCA Board Chair
Date: January 23, 2022 3:41:35 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Harriet Woodside <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Sun, Jan 23, 2022 at 1:57 PM
Subject: Time for a new HCA Board Chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Please select an HCR Board Chair who really supports conversation. We need trees and water to limit climate change. My friends and I need open, natural space to walk in for our physical and emotional health. Once trees, water and natural areas are gone they are gone. You have the opportunity to make a difference to our community and beyond by supporting a Chair who really believes in conservation.

Thank you.

Harriet Woodside

Harriet Woodside


, L9H7M6

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Requesting a HCA Chair who advocates for Conservation
Date: January 23, 2022 3:44:25 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Subhas Ganguli <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Sun, Jan 23, 2022 at 1:59 PM
Subject: Requesting a HCA Chair who advocates for Conservation
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Hello,

My name is Subhas Ganguli - I am a Hamiltonian and a physician who has recently become more aware of the effect that our dietary and lifestyle choices affect our health (please see my website FoodasPrevention.com for more details).

An important part of this is the avoidance of pollution, pesticides and the need to take a long term point of view which values things like clean air and water - currently these do not have much monetary value; but without them we cannot live.

For this reason I am requesting that the Chair of the Hamilton Conservation Authority be someone who fully understands the IMPORTANCE OF PROTECTING OUR WATERSHED and who WON'T SELL OUT TO DEVELOPERS INTERESTED IN SHORT TERM PROFITS.

A Chair that thinks diverting sewage overflow to Ancaster Creek is in any form acceptable, an action which clearly goes against sound reasoning and science, has no place representing the HCA watershed.

While somewhat abstract, the prevention of global warming and the need for a clean environment are essential for future generations.

Sincerely, Subhas Ganguli

Subhas Ganguli


Hamilton, Ontario L9C2C9

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: The important task before you
Date: January 23, 2022 3:45:25 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Susan Suter <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Sun, Jan 23, 2022 at 2:11 PM
Subject: The important task before you
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

My name is Susan Suter and I am writing on behalf of myself and my partner Dr. Frank Smith. We are long time residents of Ancaster and are gravely disappointed in our councillor Mr. Lloyd Ferguson's position and vote against protecting our agricultural land. We both sincerely hope that as the current HCA Bd. of Directors that you will install a Chair that does not have big business in their back pocket and that is genuinely concerned about maintaining our green space.

Clearly, Mr. Ferguson would be poorly suited to the role of HCA Chair.

Thank you,

Dr. Frank Smith and Susan Suter

Susan Suter



Hamilton, Ontario L9K 1P7

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Conservation authority chair
Date: January 23, 2022 3:46:58 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Anne Newbigging <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Sun, Jan 23, 2022 at 2:29 PM
Subject: Conservation authority chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I have lived in Ancaster for over 50 years and have enjoyed the recreational value of our conservation lands.

In my opinion the current chair does not put the importance of conserving our heritage first in his list of priorities. In my experience on at least two occasions he has been very slow to act on suggestions to help the environment. One request was to place a garbage disposal container at a bus stop from which people had been throwing coffee cups and the like into the Ancaster Creek—once it finally was installed the litter has almost entirely disappeared. Another instance involved installing a sign to indicate where public parking was available for visitors to the Sherman Falls. He was very slow to act and it took at least 2 requests. While these are not of great importance, they do indicate a certain lack of commitment.

Anne Newbigging



Hamilton, Ontario L9G2C5

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Lloyd Ferguson
Date: January 23, 2022 3:47:38 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cathy Cummins** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Sun, Jan 23, 2022 at 2:39 PM
Subject: Lloyd Ferguson
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I am a long time member of the RBG and have volunteered there for 30 years, my husband for 33., We are keenly interested in the environmental issues in the Hamilton area and the necessity of conservation in this era of climate change. Lloyd Ferguson showed that his interest in conservation is nil when he supported moving the wetlands recently. He should not be re-elected as Chair of HCA and I wonder how he got the position in the first place.

Cathy Cummins



Hamilton, Ontario L9H5M7

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Chairmanship of the HCA and the presence of Lloyd Ferguson on the Committee
Date: January 23, 2022 3:49:46 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Doug Rich <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Sun, Jan 23, 2022 at 2:44 PM
Subject: Chairmanship of the HCA and the presence of Lloyd Ferguson on the Committee
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

My name is Doug Rich, a senior citizen and a life long resident of Hamilton, with a traceable family history of two centuries in the Dundas Flamborough area. The antics of the current Chairman are nothing less than disgusting. Anyone who would advocate piping untreated s█t from Dundas into the Chedoke Creek after the open valve debacle and projected half billion dollar projected clean up is not fit to serve on any public body let alone a Conservation Board. Do your civic duty and rid the public of this dangerous antediluvian relic. Hamilton deserves better, put a true conservationist in the Chair!

Doug Rich
████████████████████

Hamilton, Ontario L8M2X9

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Conservation Chair
Date: January 23, 2022 3:50:55 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ingrid Harris** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Sun, Jan 23, 2022 at 2:52 PM
Subject: Conservation Chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

As a longtime resident of Hamilton who is concerned about the conservation of our watersheds, farm lands, and wildlife habitat, I BELIEVE THAT THE PRIMARY FOCUS OF THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF THE HAMILTON CONSERVATION AUTHORITY SHOULD BE TO PRESERVE OUR WATERSHEDS NOT ADVOCATE FOR THEIR DESTRUCTION.

Hence,

1) I do not support the re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson to the position of Chair of the HCA Board at the Annual General Meeting on February 3, 2022. He has consistently voted for actions and policies without any regard whatsoever for environmental concerns.

2) I support the election of a Chair who has a proven track record of defending our watershed and natural heritage, and not interfering with natural hazards at the core of a CAs mandate.

3) I expect that members elected to the HCA Board, especially the Chair, have a basic knowledge and understanding of watersheds, wetlands, biodiversity and natural heritage.

In these times, in which more and more evidence mounts that human activity is bringing about a collapse of the environment that will result in another great extinction, we must turn away from destroying what still remains of the natural systems that support life, human and all others as well.

Please choose someone as Chair who has the compassion and understanding to preserve what little is left for whatever future generations may still follow us. Do not leave them with reasons to curse our very existence on this planet. Please.

Ingrid Harris


Hamilton, Ontario L8P 3R1

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Wake up already !!
Date: January 23, 2022 3:52:11 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **John Radoman** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Sun, Jan 23, 2022 at 2:54 PM
Subject: Wake up already !!
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I am a voter, and a proud constituent of our fair city/ municipality. I (we all need) a level headed member that is PRO conservation for our precious HCA. Let's thank Mr. Ferguson, and open the door for him on his way OUT !! The PROPER person filling in this Chair will comprehend that progress can be achieved with smart development going hand-in-hand WITH future minded, sustainable conservation.

Thank you

John Radoman



Hamilton, Ontario L8T3L8

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Suitable Conservation Authority Chairperson.
Date: January 23, 2022 3:53:18 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ruth Van Horne** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Sun, Jan 23, 2022 at 2:55 PM
Subject: Suitable Conservation Authority Chairperson.
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Hello, my name is Ruth Van Horne and I'm a lifelong resident of this beautiful city of Hamilton. I've been a conservationist for as long as I can remember and I feel very strongly that the Chair of the Conservation Authority be someone who believes in protecting streams, creeks, waterfall, and wetlands in and around Hamilton. I believe firmly that the person who currently holds this position does not meet these criteria. My hope is that when you elect a new Chairperson in February you will be looking only for someone who upholds the convictions that preserving our wetlands, being in favour of biodiversity and preserving natural heritage. Mr. Ferguson most definitely does NOT meet these criteria. I trust a decision will be made on Feb. 3 to elect a chairperson who does. Thank you, Ruth Van Horne.

Ruth Van Horne



Hamilton, Ontario L8R 3P9

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Elect a pro Conservation chair to lead HCA
Date: January 23, 2022 3:53:53 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Evelyn Auchinvole <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Sun, Jan 23, 2022 at 3:11 PM
Subject: Elect a pro Conservation chair to lead HCA
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I am a resident of Ward 7 in Hamilton. I care deeply about the Hamilton Conservation Authority and their stewardship responsibilities to preserve and maintain lands that are crucial to our health and wellbeing. The Hamilton Conservation Authority must elect a chair that understands its mandate as pro Conservation and protect the lands from development. Elect a pro Conservation chair. Elect a pro Conservation chair for the Hamilton Conservation Authority.

Evelyn Auchinvole


Hamilton, Ontario L9A 4A2

7.4 (do)

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Terms
Date: January 23, 2022 3:54:20 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Lawrence PASCOE <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 23, 2022 at 3:42 PM
Subject: Terms
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

There should be a limit of two terms to the HCA Chairperson position as any more could lead to possibly favoured positions due to stale thinking.

Lawrence PASCOE
[REDACTED]

Grimsby, Ontario L3M 4V3

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: New Chair
Date: January 23, 2022 6:06:44 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Irene Laurie <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Sun, Jan 23, 2022 at 4:40 PM
Subject: New Chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

As a long time conservationist and user of the Hamilton Conservation Areas, I am delighted that we have this organization to protect our natural environment.

To this end, I support the election of a Chair who has a proven track record of defending our watershed and natural heritage. This would exclude anyone who thinks that it is acceptable to interfere with nature which is at the core of a CAs mandate.

For this reason, I absolutely do not support the incumbent. I was most concerned in the past year when I read the proposals. I do not think that the person who would put forward or even support these proposals has the correct mindset to protect our areas in a way that is being shown as ever more important as the climate changes.

Thank you.

Irene Laurie


Hamilton, Ontario L9H5E3

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Chair for HCA
Date: January 24, 2022 9:34:51 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jenn Brasch [REDACTED]
Date: Sun, Jan 23, 2022 at 7:54 PM
Subject: Chair for HCA
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

To the HCA Board of Directors,

I am a resident of Waterdown and in my third year of having a family membership to the HCA. I value the opportunity to enjoy the natural environment in the HCA areas, as my husband and I have done a lot of hiking in the last 2 years. One of my 4 children is a varsity cross country athlete, and trained frequently on the trails and in the water at Christie Conservation Area over the last 3 years. My kids have camped at Valens, we've gone canoeing, birdwatching and more.

I count on the HCA to safeguard the lands entrusted to them, to conserve the vegetation, insects and animals native to this area. It's in your name--the Hamilton CONSERVATION Authority. I am concerned that your current chair, Lloyd Ferguson, does not see conservation as a priority. Margaret Shkimba's column in the Hamilton Spectator on January 3rd outlined how Mr. Ferguson has not demonstrated a commitment to conservation principles and priorities of the conservation areas, and, in fact, to any of Hamilton's undeveloped areas. The work on an offsetting policy, his failure to disclose the sewer leak once he was aware of it, and his willingness to allow destruction of the Garner Street Marsh.

It's time to have a Chair for the HCA that is focused on conservation and recognizes that saving our natural and undeveloped areas must be the priority of the HCA.

Sincerely,

--jenn brasch

Jennifer Brasch, MD, FRCPC, FCPA
mother of 4
Hamilton, Ontario

Jenn Brasch
[REDACTED]

Yellowknife, Northwest Territories L8B 0G4

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: For Feb. 3: HCA needs an informed Chair who promotes watershed protection
Date: January 24, 2022 9:31:57 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Marg Holmes <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Sun, Jan 23, 2022 at 11:45 PM
Subject: For Feb. 3: HCA needs an informed Chair who promotes watershed protection
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Dear HCA,

I am an ordinary citizen of Hamilton and at this point, a very concerned one. All members of the HCA Board, in particular the Chair, should have at least a basic understanding of the important role of watersheds, wetlands, biodiversity, and natural heritage, and of the inherent dangers of offsetting.

I support the election of a Chair who has a proven track record of defending our watershed and ensuring its safety and preservation. I do NOT support the re-election of Lloyd Ferguson as Chair of the HCA Board at the AGM on February 3.

Margaret Holmes

Marg Holmes


Hamilton, Ontario L9C 2P9

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Conservation First
Date: January 24, 2022 9:32:52 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Kelly Pearce <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Sun, Jan 23, 2022 at 10:05 PM
Subject: Conservation First
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Hello,

I am a resident of Pleasant Valley, environmentalist of 15-years, mother of two, and secondary-school math & science teacher. The notion proposed by The Take Action Network to Save our Streams is simple: polluting our natural resources will cost tax payers more money in the long run. The number of voters who understand conservation importance are growing. Eco-tourism is another growing industry. Hamilton must step up and do what is obvious and right to conserve our unique resources.

Just do it!

Kelly Pearce

Kelly Pearce



Hamilton, Ontario L9H 3Z3

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: The Chair of HCA
Date: January 24, 2022 9:31:26 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Rita Chimienti [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 2:14 AM
Subject: The Chair of HCA
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

To the HCA Board of Directors and Executive Assistant,
I am a citizen of Hamilton and proud to be one. I moved here 35 years ago and I am continually awed by the beauty of our natural spaces.

As the stewards of our conservation lands, you have a vital mandate to protect and preserve these precious spaces. With that in mind I implore you to select a chair who embodies those goals. Many of us have become aware of the failings of the current Chair, Lloyd Ferguson. I do not need to detail them here as there are many. Suffice it to say he has proven to be the "fox guarding the hen house." I have faith in the Board to select a Chair who truly embodies the Authority's mandate to protect and enhance our beloved conservation spaces.

Sincerely,
Rita Chimienti

Rita Chimienti
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8K 4N5

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: A new Board Chair for HCA
Date: January 24, 2022 9:30:07 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Darlene Gilbert <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 7:38 AM
Subject: A new Board Chair for HCA
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I am a Hamilton resident, who enjoys the unique and beautiful wetlands of our region. HCA is an organization focused on preserving our streams and wetlands, for us today, and for our children, grandchildren and all wildlife now and in the future.

I oppose Ferguson's seat at the table because his aggressive stand on development directly contradicts the mission and goals of HCA.

The city of Hamilton desires better. Our grandchildren deserve better. Out with Ferguson and in with new leadership.

Darlene Gilbert
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9C1T7

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: HCA chair
Date: January 24, 2022 9:27:13 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jean Baxter <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 7:40 AM
Subject: HCA chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

My name is Jean Baxter. I live on [REDACTED] [REDACTED] on land adjacent to conservation area. My husband and I hold memberships to the HCA .

I was moved by Marg Skimba and Craig Caesar 's letters calling for a new chair to replace Lloyd Ferguson. I totally agree that we must have a chair who is focused on conservation, the mandate of the HCA, and not on development, the mandate of the current provincial government.

The mood of the people is changing to reflect a need to protect our water - no more Chedoke Creek cover ups - no to "offsetting, no to urban sprawl .

Please, don't let big money ruin our precious natural resource, on Feb 3, please elect a new chair of the HCA, one whose values are in line with its mandate.

Perhaps the citizens of his ward will vote him out of council in the next city election.

Jean Baxter
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9H5E3

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: HCA
Date: January 24, 2022 9:22:19 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bonnie Paling** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 8:00 AM
Subject: HCA
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I am Bonnie Paling and lived in Dundas for over fifty years,enjoying the Conversation trails
.....hiked and biked!

Feel the Conservation should be preserved and protected forever for people to enjoy as we
see more and more land to urban sprawl.

Lloyd Ferguson has a vested interest in the sprawl and in no way cares about saving the
land for it's beauty and enjoyment in the future!

Please make sure that he no longer heads the HCA!

Thank you,Bonnie Paling

Bonnie Paling


Hamilton, Ontario L8M 3E7

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Remove Lloyd Ferguson from the HCA Chair
Date: January 24, 2022 9:21:38 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Charlie DeFalco** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 8:27 AM
Subject: Remove Lloyd Ferguson from the HCA Chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

My name is Charles DeFalco, I am a long time Ancaster resident.
I have been reading about and observing Mr. Ferguson's actions and words for a long time.
He very often supports the needs of developers over environmental needs. It's time to
remove him from any position of authority which involves conservation. Enough is enough!

Charlie DeFalco



Hamilton, Ontario L9G2E7

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: ELECTION OF NEW CHAIR OF HCA
Date: January 24, 2022 9:20:45 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Carolyn Rogers [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 8:31 AM
Subject: ELECTION OF NEW CHAIR OF HCA
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

My name is Dr Carolyn Rogers. I have been donating to the Hamilton Conservation Authority for many years. I was featured in the HCA newsletter a number of years ago as the longest running member and donor. I feel strongly about protecting and preserving our natural heritage locally, and I do not feel that counsellor Lloyd Ferguson, with ties to the construction industry and a history of supporting projects that clearly damage natural features to allow industry development is an appropriate choice as chair of the HCA. We need a chair with a clear commitment to the environment. I am considering re-directing my future donations if Mr Ferguson is re-elected as chair, as my intention is to support preservation of our local heritage, not an organization that condones its destruction.

Yours truly, Dr Carolyn Rogers

Carolyn Rogers
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8P 2L5

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: New Leadership for HCA-- Don't Let Ferguson Chair Again
Date: January 24, 2022 9:10:23 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Nicole Doro <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 8:35 AM
Subject: New Leadership for HCA-- Don't Let Ferguson Chair Again
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Hello,

My name is Nicole Doro, and I am a lifelong Hamiltonian. I am about to give birth and hope to raise my son in Hamilton, as I was. As an HCA member for years, it is my hope that we will be able to continue to enjoy the beautiful conservation areas that Hamilton has to offer ... but I worry about this goal if the leadership of the HCA were to once again fall to Lloyd Ferguson as Chair.

Most concerning to me is that Councillor Ferguson voted in favour of an urban boundary expansion, something that an advocate for our local environment as one would expect the Chair of the HCA to be would not have done, and as all of the other councillors receiving this email voted against as well.

The term limit that should preclude Councillor Ferguson from once again taking this position is in place for good reason, and should be respected. Diversity in leadership is helpful in allowing new perspectives and methods for proceeding to have a chance.

In the face of rampant climate change, it is the duty of our Conservation agencies to preserve and protect our natural habitats. Councillor Ferguson's promotion of offsetting principles show an inherent misunderstanding in conservation management -- it is simply not possible in most cases for human intervention to destroy and then "recreate" an entire ecosystem that took hundreds or sometimes even thousands of years to evolve to its current state. There are so few of these havens left in our city, and they do so much work when it comes to rainwater absorption and carbon capture in a heavily industrial city (one of the highest carbon outputs per capita in the GTA) that we really need leadership that understands and defends these principals rather than advocating against them.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration,

Nicole Doro



From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Time for new chair
Date: January 24, 2022 9:08:53 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Meg Tyrell <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 8:41 AM
Subject: Time for new chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I am a lifelong Ancaster resident and part of the value of this community is the nature surrounding it. Ferguson has cultivated a disastrous legacy through his duplicitous practices. Not only has he endorsed moving a waterway, his decisions are not rooted in logic or evidence. He does not have the qualifications to do the job and support the HCA. I know that HCA is obligated to have councilors on the board, but surely we can do better. I also know that with COVID, HCA has had a stellar year and this warrants the organization putting practices in place that aligns with their conservation policies. Ferguson somehow thought dumping sewage into Ancaster creek was a good idea, he endorses development that compromises HCA land and his time is up. How can he still be on the board with so many notable conflicts of interest. How is that ethical, legal or justifiable? If you want to retain the support of your citizens, do better, not Ferguson.

Meg Tyrell



Hamilton, Ontario L9G3B4

7.4 (eb)

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: going downhill
Date: January 24, 2022 9:07:55 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ian Philips** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 8:43 AM
Subject: going downhill
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

in the years we've been visiting the dundas valley and surrounding area we've noted one thing - more "management", more expenses, less availability. can we change the direction we've been heading? the kids need it. the green spaces need it.

Ian Philips



Hamilton, Ontario L9H 1J2

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: HCA Chair re-election
Date: January 24, 2022 9:06:47 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: John Hall [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 9:07 AM
Subject: HCA Chair re-election
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Hello, My name is John Hall and I do not support the re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson to the position of Chair of the HCA Board at the Annual General Meeting on February 3, 2022.

John Hall

John Hall
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9G2Z1

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: New Chair
Date: January 24, 2022 9:05:50 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mariette St Pierre** [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 10:27 AM
Subject: New Chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I am a concerned resident of Dundas who has observed with dismay Mr. Lloyd Ferguson's various decisions to support developers' attempts to destroy our natural habitats.

Citizens depend on the Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA) to protect our precious natural resources. It is our voice where we have none as individuals.

I implore the HCA to elect as chair an individual who will strongly defend its core principles and mandates. The reputation of the HCA and our environment is at stake.

Thank you. Respectfully yours,

Mariette St Pierre

Mariette St Pierre
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9H3S3

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Time for a new Hamilton Conservation Authority Chair
Date: January 24, 2022 9:06:27 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Save our Streams Hamilton** <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 9:06 PM
Subject: Re: Time for a new Hamilton Conservation Authority Chair
To: <[REDACTED]>

On Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 10:27 AM James Richardson <info@email.actionnetwork.org> wrote:

- SOS Hamilton,

Hello,

My name is James Richardson and I live in Dundas.

I and my family use the conservation areas extensively as well as having an understanding how vitally important the green belt is to the health of the city. Its protection is essential not only for sustaining a natural habitat for plants and wildlife, protecting the watershed, helping to mitigate climate change but also providing outstanding recreational opportunities. Once lost, gone forever.

Accordingly, the Conservation Board needs to be chaired by someone who fully understands what "conservation" means.

It now seems that we have the fox guarding the henhouse.

I strongly believe that we now need a new chair that understands the importance of intelligently protecting the environment and who can provide responsible leadership and guidance necessary for the long term sustainment of it.

Thank you.

James Richardson
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9H 6W5

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: I do not support re-election of Lloyd Ferguson
Date: January 24, 2022 9:05:13 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Lynn Prince <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 10:30 AM
Subject: I do not support re-election of Lloyd Ferguson
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

My name is Lynn Prince. I live in Mount Hope, moving from Ancaster in 2019. I lived in Ancaster for close to 30 years. I do not support the re-election of Lloyd Ferguson as Chair of the HCA Board. I have too often watched Lloyd Ferguson push for development. I have never understood how a person with a background of many years in construction and development was ever elected to that position in the first place. I always believed that the members of the Board of the HCA would be of like mind, that being for conversation. Lloyd Ferguson is not of that mind and has proven that many times over. I support the election of a new Chair who has a background of defending our watershed and natural heritage, unlike Lloyd Ferguson who pushes for destruction, which is against everything a Conservation Authority is all about.

Lynn Prince



Niagara, Ontario L0R 1W0

7.4 (eg)

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Time to Prioritize protection
Date: January 24, 2022 9:03:13 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Luc Lalonde** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 10:57 AM
Subject: Time to Prioritize protection
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

HCA must start focusing on their core objective which is to save and protect our green spaces from developmental sprawl and overuse. Once our lands are given up for development there is no turning back the clock.

Luc Lalonde



Hamilton, Ontario L9H 5J7

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Garner Marsh: Please vote to save it
Date: January 24, 2022 9:02:11 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Save our Streams Hamilton** <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 9:01 PM
Subject: Re: Garner Marsh: Please vote to save it
To: [REDACTED]

On Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 11:12 AM Jane Richardson <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

wrote:

- SOS Hamilton,

I strongly support keeping the Garner Marsh, not only for future generations to enjoy, but also to diminish the impact of the climate change that we are already experiencing, changes caused in significant part by destruction of natural habitat that has already taken place.

In particular, wetlands such as Garner are valuable for absorbing and slowly releasing large amounts of water from the peak rainfalls now occurring more frequently and catastrophically, such as BC's experience in 2021. In this age of erratic climate events, wetland safeguards against flooding are more important than ever.

Hamilton has the privilege of large landholdings and our urban centres can and should wisely increase in density in places where roads, transit and urban services are already available.

Please vote against any proposals to develop this precious natural heritage.

Jane Richardson, BSc, MBA
[REDACTED], Dundas ON, L9H 6W5

Jane Richardson
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9H 6W5

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Save our Streams
Date: January 24, 2022 9:01:27 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Dan Gardiner** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 11:13 AM
Subject: Save our Streams
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I agree with the aims and objectives of the Save Our Steams group. I have witnessed many Mountain streams buried under urban sprawl. It is time to change that practice.

I hope you will make saving our waterways a priority.

Thanks for your attention.

Dan Gardiner

Dan Gardiner



Hamilton, Ontario L9A2Z1

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Save Our Streams/Wetlands
Date: January 24, 2022 11:25:02 AM

Recently, in the Hamilton Spectator, I have read and agree that H CA should be proactive in protecting our wetlands/watersheds and green spaces from construction and building development, especially, at this time, the Garner Road Marsh. Let these developers find another less harmful location!

Also, it is time to replace Ferguson as chairman with a person who will uphold the values and mandate of H CA, and protect our natural environment; once it is destroyed, it cannot be replaced!!!

Sincerely, M.A.Weber

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Attention Jamie Tellier
Date: January 24, 2022 8:56:05 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Penny Lock <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 12:12 PM
Subject: Attention Jamie Tellier
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Change is vital to preserve what remains of our water sheds and natural heritage. Therefore it is necessary to elect a chair that has a proven track record of defending water shed and natural heritage. We are NOT in a housing development crisis we ARE in an Environmental one. Lloyd Ferguson needs to go. He should not remain chair of the HCA Board, considering his agenda.

Penny Lock



Hamilton, Ontario L8P4S5

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: HCA Chair - Time for A Change
Date: January 24, 2022 8:55:29 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Mark Osborne [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 12:21 PM
Subject: HCA Chair - Time for A Change
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

As a resident of Greenville, I have had several involvements with the present chair of the HCA. It has not been all that inspiring. With his construction and development background he is not the person to lead conservation of any kind. In fact he voted in favour of urban sprawl and other projects that clearly do not fit the role a chair of the conservation needs.

We need someone with a proven track record on the environment and a dedication to preserve it. It is imperative we find someone who has an educational background, focus and a clear desire to protect the environment. The present chair has none of these qualifications. I urge to see out the right person to chair this very important role. Climate change needs someone who will take this to the level we need as chair. M. Osborne

Mark Osborne
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9H5K3

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: A Chair who puts conservation first
Date: January 24, 2022 8:54:48 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Janet Fraser <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 1:24 PM
Subject: A Chair who puts conservation first
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

To all those who lead and love the City of Hamilton and it's natural areas...

My name is Janet Fraser, a resident and a senior who first fell in love with Hamilton in 1969. I moved ALL the way to Hamilton from St. Catharines to attend McMaster University as an 18 year old. Why did I fall in love with Hamilton? It was Cootes Paradise , adjacent to McMaster that first attracted me . It was also the Niagara Escarpment, The Bruce Trail, the lake and the bay , and over time I learned that there was also life on the Hamilton mountain! I marvelled at what a wonderful city it was to have so many natural wonders intertwined in such a vibrant, and eclectic city with everything from steel mills, to hospitals and a top notch university ! I am still here . I still value the natural wonders that Hamilton has....and as an HCA member , Bruce Trail and RBG member , I have walked many magnificent trails, seen the many waterfalls, sailed in the Hamilton Bay , and as a former travelling Public Health Nurse for the city , I know every nook and cranny of the city , ...the good, the bad and the ugly. The very best of this city is the natural areas that have been protected , preserved and loved by Hamiltonians, rich or poor, and attracted many to the area. There are very few cities that can boast having what we have . We need a Chair of the Hamilton Conservation Authority who will put environmental protection first , so that our grandchildren can grow up to value, love and protect our wilderness areas, farms and wetlands . As an elder now, I can truly say there is nothing that matters more than preserving this for future generations.

Janet Fraser



West Lincoln, Ontario L0R 1W0

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: HCA chair
Date: January 24, 2022 8:53:16 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jean Wise [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 1:35 PM
Subject: HCA chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I think it is time for fresh eyes on the Hamilton Conservation Authority. I don't think it is so easy to replace or relocate natural landscapes and I am concerned the current chairman has narrow minded views.

Jean Wise
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8V 3K4

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: HCA Chair
Date: January 24, 2022 8:43:39 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ilona Stewart** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 1:51 PM
Subject: HCA Chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

My name is Ilona Stewart, a concerned resident who lives in Ancaster.

We need an individual who is independent of city council and strives as Chair to make the best possible decisions on behalf of conservation in our area.

The decision making related to the balancing of planning matters such as zoning, economic and residential development needs against conservation needs should be left in the hands of city councillors - that is their job. It is NOT within the HCA's core mandate.

The Hamilton Conservation Authority must consider a chair:

With a demonstrated belief in the value of conservation.

Who clearly upholds and believes in the vision and mission of the HCA through visible leadership and advocacy.

Who is astutely aware of conservation and potential impacts on climate change.

Demonstrates progressive thinking related to the impacts of climate change.

Who is clearly NOT in conflict with his/her role as a city councillor.

Who can regain and build much needed trust among Hamiltonian's that he/she is working on behalf of their concern for conservation matters.

Ilona Stewart


Hamilton, Ontario L9G 0A1

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: The Hamilton Conservation Authority need a conservationist as leader
Date: January 24, 2022 8:52:41 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Eileen Shannon <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 2:48 PM
Subject: The Hamilton Conservation Authority need a conservationist as leader
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I am a resident of Dundas and a frequent user of the trails in our beautiful valley.

I do not support the re-election of Lloyd Ferguson as chair of the HCA on February 3rd, 2022. I am surprised that, given his poor track record, he has the nerve to run again.

We need a proven, knowledgeable conservationist at the helm of this important institution.

Eileen Shannon


Hamilton, Ontario L9H 2S4

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Environmentalist needed as new chair for your board
Date: January 24, 2022 8:52:21 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Carolyn VanHoevelaak [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 3:02 PM
Subject: Environmentalist needed as new chair for your board
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I have a membership with the Hamilton Conservation authority and enjoy spending time on your trails. I have been writing a green blog to try to educate people where I live. I have been disappointed with the actions of your current chair and urge you to elect someone who cares about the environment and has the knowledge to protect it.

Carolyn VanHoevelaak
[REDACTED]

West Lincoln, Ontario L0R1W0

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: New Chair for HCA
Date: January 24, 2022 8:51:01 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ellie Rees** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 3:37 PM
Subject: New Chair for HCA
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I am a Hamilton taxpayer and we must have a Chair that protects our nature reserves. It is obvious that Lloyd Fergusson is not the right advocate. The Board needs to elect a chair who is capable of making responsible decisions to protect our environment and not the interests of the developers.

Ellie Rees


Hamilton, Ontario L8P 2T2

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: conservation is critical
Date: January 24, 2022 8:51:41 PM

----- Forwarded message -----


From: **Brenda Cunningham** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 3:37 PM
Subject: conservation is critical
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Hello

It should be common sense to anyone that in this day of environmental challenges the members and especially the leader of the HCA (or any other organization dealing with the environment) be aware, sympathetic and informed of the environmental issues.

PLEASE elect a new director that has the required credentials to do the job.

Brenda Cunningham


Hamilton, Ontario L8P 1X4

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: A chair that puts water first
Date: January 24, 2022 8:49:56 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Alex Wilson <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 4:01 PM
Subject: A chair that puts water first
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Good afternoon,

My name is Alex and I am a resident of Ward 13 and regular user of HCA areas. I'm writing today to request that the February 3rd Board meeting be used as an opportunity to elect a board chair that is committed to the conservation and restoration of our local watershed. In the face of a climate emergency I hope the HCA is ready to lead in both the protection of existing natural features but also in the transition to a way of living that is connected to our natural systems. Part of being ready to lead involved electing a Chair that puts conservation first.

Rather than look to pave over our natural areas to create employment lands, our watershed deserves a chair who will explore ways to bring green jobs to our community that also benefit our natural areas. Jobs in ecosystem restoration, agroecology, sustainable forestry, and resource recovery are going to be in demand for decades to come. It is clear that Mr. Ferguson doesn't see or doesn't want to see that there are alternatives to the anachronistic development no matter what approach to economic development.

I was severely disappointed to watch Mr. Ferguson advocate for the destruction of the Garner Marsh in his role of Chair, further disappointed to see him speak against staff recommendations when it came to deciding on an offsetting policy, and appalled when Mr. Ferguson brought forward a motion to City Council about pumping sewage overflows into Ancaster Creek.

I hope the next chair of the HCA understands that what is best for the water is best for us all.

As board members I ask that you reflect on why you serve on the HCA board is it not to do what is best for our watershed? In a climate emergency we need board members to be staunch advocates for acting with urgency and addressing the scale of the crisis we are facing, we can't afford to keep fighting against attempts to go backwards when we need to jump forward and fast.

I read today that over 150 citizens have already sent letters like this to you. I understand these may be framed as part of a "social media mob" so I want to ensure you I've read through the HCA's watershed reports and watched your past meetings. It is because I am informed and have been engaged that I am concerned. If so many of us have these concerns,

I would hope you as board members do too.

Sincerely,
Alex Wilson

Alex Wilson

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the address line.

Hamilton, Ontario L9H1X6

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: We need a new Chair at HCA
Date: January 24, 2022 8:48:01 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: David Shea [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 4:20 PM
Subject: We need a new Chair at HCA
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

My name is David Shea and I am a life time resident of Hamilton. As all citizens of this great city we have always taken pride in the work of the conservation authority in protecting the streams and wetland across the region. These protections are even more important today and we need a chair in place who puts a priority to these important resources and not his developer friends. I ask the members of the HCA Board to do the right thing on Feb 3rd and not return Mr. Ferguson as Chair.

Thank You

David Shea
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8P4G7

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: A New Chair for the HCA!
Date: January 24, 2022 8:47:10 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Janet OSullivan <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 4:45 PM
Subject: A New Chair for the HCA!
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Greetings,

As a Hamilton resident for 18 years, I have long had concerns about the leadership and direction of various city and regional institutions.

The current leadership of the Hamilton Conservation Authority is a prime example of the wrong person in a position of leadership.

Lloyd Ferguson has shown time and time again that his priorities are not in line with the principles of good management of our natural water systems. Under Mr. Ferguson's leadership, there has been a clear prioritization of development over conservation and a blatant disregard for our natural heritage.

The chair of the HCA should have the preservation of our watersheds as their primary focus.

On February 3, 2022, I urge you to elect a chair with a basic knowledge of wetlands and biodiversity who has a proven record of defending our watershed.

Janet OSullivan

Janet OSullivan


Hamilton (Durand / Kirkendall / Chedoke Park), Ontario L8P 4G7

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Choose a Chair whose goal is to protect the environment, fighting climate change, protecting our water and reducing floodinh
Date: January 24, 2022 11:31:53 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Norman Newbery <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 5:52 PM
Subject: Choose a Chair whose goal is to protect the environment, fighting climate change, protecting our water and reducing floodinh
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Conservation Hamilton is about to elect a new chair. We need a person as chair who will protect our conservation areas. As you will know our Conservation Areas and their boards were set up after the devastating effects of Hurricane Hazel.

In this time of increasingly severe climate change we need to anticipate worse storms than that. Effectively preserved conservation areas are our best means to manage storm waters. Trees and plants suck up water. Native species support biodiversity. Trees also fix the soils in place with their root systems and help prevent flooding. In addition the roots of trees and plants assist the ability of water to percolate downwards into the water table instead of becoming runoff.

As a citizen of Hamilton I have take the time to become informed about the vital role of natural conservation areas. It is important to note that no engineered projects can fulfill all of the important functions of a conservation area.

We must have a Chair and board members who understand and support these vital functions.

Norman Newbery



Hamilton, Ontario L8P 4N5

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Conservation chair
Date: January 24, 2022 8:46:29 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Libby Simpson [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 5:54 PM
Subject: Conservation chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Hi all

I am a concerned citizen and member of the HCA

My name is Libby Simpson

I grew up in Dundas walking the Bruce trail and now live in Ancaster and enjoy the Dundas Valley Conservation trails.

Please in your wisdom and love of this planet elect a chair who will lead this important organization to conserve and preserve this beautiful area we live in.

Sustainable careful development is only possible with strong thoughtful leadership.

Libby Simpson
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9G 5B8

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: HCA Chair
Date: January 24, 2022 8:45:54 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Travis Kroeker [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 7:52 PM
Subject: HCA Chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I'm a professor at McMaster who has taught at the university since 1988. Growing up in Winnipeg, and having lived in Chicago and St. John's I wasn't sure what to expect in making a move to Hamilton. It was a stunning revelation: beautiful conservation areas, the RBG, the Bruce Trail, and then the waterfront restoration with a hopeful Cootes and Harbour cleanup. Of course, it wasn't all that way: greenbelt development, city hall dysfunction . . . But more recently things have been moving in worse directions: unreported sewage seepages, the lack of urban planning and the push for increased farmland development. Most dispiriting for me, however, are the attempts to undermine the central mandate of the HCA to protect and restore the amazing treasure that is right here, and currently under threat. Re-electing Lloyd Ferguson to yet another term as chair would be a slug in the guts to the majority of citizens in this area who want to see the protection and indeed restoration and enhancement of precious conservation lands in a region that is seeing increasing pressures from developers to override the HCA mission without real consideration for what's at stake longer term. The HCA needs a strong voice at the table to defend that mission. Lloyd Ferguson has proven himself to be not only tone deaf but a threat to speaking to that mission with integrity. Please do not hand him another (exceptional! for all the wrong reasons) term as Chair.

Travis Kroeker

Travis Kroeker
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8P 3Z4

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: A HCA chair with a conservation mindset
Date: January 24, 2022 8:44:12 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Regan Jahns** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 8:10 PM
Subject: A HCA chair with a conservation mindset
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

As a lifelong resident (60 years) I've lived through the loss of farmland and greenspace in the Stoney Creek area. As we move forward we must stop the loss of what little natural habitat is left for us and for the remaining wildlife in this area. I believe this can only be achieved with a strong HCA chair without connections past or present to the development industry.

Regan Jahns



Hamilton, Ontario L8G3H4

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Choosing a Chair who favours Conservation rather than development
Date: January 24, 2022 8:40:58 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Peter Banting [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 8:36 PM
Subject: Choosing a Chair who favours Conservation rather than development
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I am an emeritus professor from McMaster. Hamilton born and bred, I lived in Ancaster for 40 years, and now live in downtown Hamilton. In this region we are fortunate to still have many natural environments, the escarpment, wetlands, Burlington Bay, and the wildlife, plants and trees that make our existence as city dwellers more tolerable. My wife and I strongly feel that Lloyd Ferguson has exhibited that he is pro-development and anti-conservation and anti-heritage. These are not the characteristics that a person serving the community in the role of Conservation Chair. We urge you to elect or appoint people who believe in preserving our natural and built heritage. Once these things are gone they cannot be recovered.

Growth in population can be achieved by intensification within existing city boundaries. Even our arable land is under attack. And raw sewage is allowed to escape to the Bay. The role of conservation is to constrain such affronts. Members of the Board have this as a sacred duty.

Peter Banting
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8P 4V4

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: New chair
Date: January 24, 2022 9:40:21 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Steve MacIntyre** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 8:41 PM
Subject: New chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Lloyd Ferguson's time is up, get someone new pls

Steve MacIntyre


Hamilton, Ontario L9A4A7

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Election of next HCA Chair
Date: January 24, 2022 8:53:58 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Save our Streams Hamilton** <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 8:53 PM
Subject: Re: Election of next HCA Chair
To: [REDACTED]

On Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 1:35 PM Doreen Stermann <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

wrote:

- SOS Hamilton,

Hello, I am a resident of Hamilton. I also purchase annual HCA memberships.

I believe in protecting our natural ecosystem.

Our waterways, wetlands and other natural environments are under constant threat from more development and sewer runoff.

The Chair needs to be pro - protection of this biosphere. Not a person who advocates pro development and pro disruption to our waterways. The current Chair Ferguson is not one who advocates to protect this ecosystem as he has demonstrated on several occasions his bias to promote development. How he got elected to this position in the first place is mind boggling.

Please! To protect our future do not re-elect him. Rather choose someone who will protect it.

Sincerely

Doreen Stermann

Hamilton, Ontario

Doreen Stermann
[REDACTED]

, L8P 2J2

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Let's change it up!
Date: January 24, 2022 9:43:41 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ryan Strang** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 9:41 PM
Subject: Let's change it up!
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Hi there,

As a young family, we have made a lot use of HCA—especially over the last two years. We are introducing our daughter to the outdoors and the importance of these lands. In order for these lands to be sustainable, we need leadership who cares about conservation.

We need someone who won't fight to disclose information that has a direct negative impact on HCA. We need someone who is not pro-sprawl when it's unnecessary. We need someone that's pro-conservation.

Please elect a new chair for HCA.

Ryan

Ryan Strang


Hamilton, Ontario L8P2A6

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Do not re-elect Lloyd Ferguson to chair of the HCA board
Date: January 24, 2022 11:20:55 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Salvatore Chiarelli <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 10:01 PM
Subject: Do not re-elect Lloyd Ferguson to chair of the HCA board
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Hello,

My name is Salvatore Chiarelli and I am a resident of Hamilton, specifically of the Mountview neighbourhood.

It should go without saying that the chair of the HCA should support the conservation of our watersheds and should have Hamilton's best interests in mind when it comes to environmental issues. Lloyd has valued profit over conservation during his time as HCA chair. It is time to elect someone new who will not put profits first.

Thank you,

Salvatore Chiarelli

Salvatore Chiarelli


Hamilton, Ontario L9C 2C2

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Chair of HCA
Date: January 24, 2022 11:21:13 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jean Wilson [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Jan 24, 2022 at 10:10 PM
Subject: Chair of HCA
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Dear Members of the HCA Board of Directors,

I am a concerned citizen writing to say that I do not support the re-election of Lloyd Ferguson to the position of Chair of the Board of the HCA on 3 Feb. I hope that you will instead elect an individual who has shown that they are truly committed to the preservation of our precious natural environment.

Thank you for all the good work you do.

Sincerely yours,

Jean Wilson
Hamilton, ON

Jean Wilson
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8S 3Z4

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Saving our wetlands
Date: January 25, 2022 6:59:03 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Eleanor Hamill** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 25, 2022 at 12:20 AM
Subject: Saving our wetlands
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

It's very important to myself and my family who live in Ancaster that the continuation of destroying our streams ect .Nature. has to be stopped. We would like to see Lloyd Ferguson off the board. He has far too much power in this city .i have had dealings with this person with no results. His disregard for the average family here in Ancaster is Nil. We need new blood on the board who has respect for nature. Not Lloyd Ferguson.

Eleanor Hamill

Eleanor Hamill



Hamilton, Ontario L9k1s2

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: New Leadership on February 3
Date: January 25, 2022 7:01:30 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Craig Cassar** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 25, 2022 at 6:40 AM
Subject: New Leadership on February 3
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

My name is Craig Cassar and I live in Ancaster. I've been an HCA member for many years.

On February 3, you have an opportunity to course-correct by choosing new leadership. I encourage you to reflect on the reasons for the HCA's existence and how current leadership has been undermining that purpose. I also encourage you to reflect on past leaders to reset your expectations on what leadership actually is. A few examples:

Thomas Beckett was the founder of and a worthy Chair for our Conservation Authority.

He would not advocate for building warehouses on wetlands. He convinced a quarry company to donate the eastern side of Spencer Gorge to the Authority.

He would not push hard for policies that would offer up our natural areas to developers. He convinced the Provincial government to kill the idea of building a highway through the area that became the Dundas Valley Conservation Area.

He would not propose installing a sewage overflow pipe that would drain into Ancaster Creek and Cootes Paradise. He negotiated with a developer and had them donate the land around today's Monarch trail to add to the CA's lands.

As a member of HCA's Board of Directors, it is your responsibility to provide leadership supporting the Authority's mandate: the conservation of our watershed lands. The consideration of what developers want or what jobs or tax revenue would be created is not within your mandate. On February 3, you must elect new leadership that supports the protection of our natural heritage and all that it encompasses.

Act - and vote! - like Tom Beckett is watching. Because he still is.

Craig Cassar

[REDACTED]

, L9K0A8

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Wetlands preservation
Date: January 25, 2022 11:14:57 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: linda Hughes [REDACTED]
Date: Tue, Jan 25, 2022 at 11:05 AM
Subject: Wetlands preservation
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I BELIEVE THAT THE PRIMARY FOCUS OF THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF THE
HAMILTON CONSERVATION AUTHORITY SHOULD BE TO PRESERVE OUR
WATERSHEDS NOT ADVOCATE FOR THEIR DESTRUCTION.

linda Hughes
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9G 2N4

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: New Blood for the HCA
Date: January 25, 2022 12:24:06 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: karen bouwman [REDACTED]
Date: Tue, Jan 25, 2022 at 11:29 AM
Subject: New Blood for the HCA
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

My name is Karen Bouwman and I reside in Westdale. My husband and I are members of the HCA.

I have been reading about the possibility that the Ancaster wetlands on Garner Rd. will be covered to provide a warehouse. I have become more concerned over the years how development is poorly managed in Hamilton. The HCA requires a Chair who does not have ties to the construction industry. Perhaps Mr. Ferguson could choose another committee which doesn't entail destroying wetlands.

It is troubling to believe that the wetlands should be paved and other land used to offset it. Why doesn't the development company find another spot to build its warehouse.

Please review Mr. Ferguson's position in terms of developing farmland. He voted for urban sprawl. Another Chair may be more receptive to protecting our land than developing it.

Kind regards,

Karen Bouwman

karen bouwman
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8S 4A4

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Needed: A Conservation Chair actually concerned with Conservation
Date: January 25, 2022 12:24:49 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Marion Hewitt** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 25, 2022 at 12:06 PM
Subject: Needed: A Conservation Chair actually concerned with Conservation
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

My name is Marion and although I no longer live in Hamilton, I live nearby and shop, and work in Hamilton.

I know the value and importance of protecting our watershed. I need a Chair at the helm of the Conservation Authority that advocates for this.

A Chair that prioritises profit over conservation work is taking Hamilton in the wrong direction. Bulldozing wetlands and moving creeks, known as offsetting, disturbs natural systems in immeasurable ways and increases the risk we face with climate change. HCA staff have recommended against an offsetting policy and HCA needs a Chair that truly supports this.

Pressures on the watershed will remain but sound decision making that upholds the mandate of the Conservation Authority will help ensure a safe watershed. A Chair that thinks diverting sewage overflow to Ancaster Creek is in any form acceptable, an action which clearly goes against sound reasoning and science, has no place representing the HCA watershed.

I BELIEVE THAT THE PRIMARY FOCUS OF THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF THE HAMILTON CONSERVATION AUTHORITY SHOULD BE TO PRESERVE OUR WATERSHEDS NOT ADVOCATE FOR THEIR DESTRUCTION.

1) I do not support the re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson to the position of Chair of the HCA Board at the Annual General Meeting on February 3, 2022.

2) I support the election of a Chair who has a proven track record of defending our watershed and natural heritage, and not interfering with natural hazards at the core of a CAs mandate.

3) I expect that members elected to the HCA Board, especially the Chair, have a basic knowledge and understanding of watersheds, wetlands, biodiversity and natural heritage.

Marion Hewitt


From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Chair that is for Conservation
Date: January 25, 2022 12:25:33 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Pam MacDonald** <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 25, 2022 at 12:15 PM
Subject: Chair that is for Conservation
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Hamilton is uniquely positioned to be a leader. Thanks to the foresight of those who have gone before, we have remarkable protected natural resources like RBG lands, escarpment, Dundas Valley Conservation Area. We need leaders at Hamilton Conservation to helm this agency to carry on in this direction, doing everything we can to preserve and increase protection of what remains of our natural heritage. Build up not out. Reward REdevelopment not new developments.

Pam MacDonald



Hamilton, Ontario L8r 3b7

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Chair of HCA
Date: January 25, 2022 2:27:20 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Marilyn Ortwein <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 25, 2022 at 12:57 PM
Subject: Chair of HCA
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

My name is Marilyn Ortwein and I live in Burlington, but I think that the Chair of HCA has to have a strong environmental record. Burlington, as you know, is a neighbour of Hamilton and our waterways are interconnected. Paving over wetlands, changing the course of streams and polluting waterways has a direct impact on the natural areas of Burlington. Lloyd Ferguson has supported sprawl and the building of a warehouse on a wetland. He was on Hamilton Council when that sewage spill was kept a secret from the public. Is he a logical choice to continue as Chair of HCA ? I think not.

Marilyn Ortwein


Burlington, Ontario L7T 3A4

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: HCA Chair
Date: January 25, 2022 2:29:53 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Carmel Mothersill [REDACTED] >
Date: Tue, Jan 25, 2022 at 1:03 PM
Subject: HCA Chair
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I am Carmel Mothersill a professor and Canada Research Chair at McMaster University in the Department of Biology. I am asking the board to appoint a new Chair on February 3rd. Please select someone who actually cares about the environment and who will fight to protect it and not to promote developers.

Carmel Mothersill
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L8S 2C1

From: [Save our Streams Hamilton](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: Fwd: Election of HRCA Board Chair Person
Date: January 25, 2022 2:30:57 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Michael Lloyd [REDACTED]
Date: Tue, Jan 25, 2022 at 1:48 PM
Subject: Election of HRCA Board Chair Person
To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

My name is Michael Lloyd. I have a HRCA yearly pass. I was born in Dundas and have lived here for 70 years. I have watched many changes happen in this area. I know where the garbage dumps are hidden and drain into the Desjardin canal and Cootes Paradise. After the disaster of unfathomable amounts of sewage allowed to escape into Chedoke creek and Cootes Paradise it was completely disgusting to read of the Chair of the HRCA arguing for the use of Ancaster creek as a sewage overflow! I am also appalled at the idea of allowing the destruction of wetlands because they may be inconvenient for commercial purposes.

I respectfully ask that the position of chair person be filled by someone whose first priority is conservation of the natural environment as it exists not for any scheme involving developers planners or those blind to the benefits of the natural landscape. Mr. Ferguson is welcome to be the representative voice for development and urbanization on the board. but never the chair.

Please vote for someone who votes to conserve what we have.

Thank you.

Michael Lloyd
Dundas

Michael Lloyd
[REDACTED]

Hamilton, Ontario L9H2A9

From: [Lisa Burnside](#)
To: [Jaime Tellier](#)
Subject: FW: Regulatory and Policy Proposals under the Conservation Authorities Act – Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Date: January 26, 2022 1:08:16 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

From: ca.office (MECP) <ca.office@ontario.ca>

Sent: January 26, 2022 12:01 PM

Subject: Regulatory and Policy Proposals under the Conservation Authorities Act – Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Conservation and Source Protection Branch 14 th Floor 40 St. Clair Ave. West Toronto ON M4V 1M2	Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Protection de la nature et des Parcs Direction de la protection de la nature et des sources 14 ^e étage 40, avenue St. Clair Ouest Toronto (Ontario) M4V 1M2
--	--



afternoon:

Our government is committed to ensuring that conservation authorities are focused on helping protect people and property from natural hazards, the conservation and management of conservation authority-owned lands, and their roles in drinking water source protection.

To implement recent changes made to the *Conservation Authorities Act* (CAA), three new regulations were filed on October 1, 2021 as part of the first phase of regulations. These regulations set out details of the new framework for programs and services that support the core mandate of conservation authorities and consolidated the 'conservation area' regulations.

Building on that progress and to support a smooth transition by conservation authorities to the new funding framework by January 1, 2024, the second phase of regulatory and policy proposals have been posted for consultation on the Environmental Registry of Ontario ([notice number 019-4610](#)). The government is making these proposals to improve overall governance, oversight, transparency, and accountability of conservation authority operations, and the proposals include municipal levy provisions, proposed budget process, and classes of programs and services for which conservation authorities can charge a fee.

The government is proposing regulations and a policy that would include:

- Details, through a Lieutenant Governor in Council regulation, governing the apportionment by conservation authorities of their capital costs and operating

expenses to be paid by their participating municipalities through municipal levies, as well as related conservation authority budgetary matters, including requirements that conservation authorities distribute their draft and final budgets to relevant municipalities and make them publicly available – i.e. ‘Municipal Levies regulation’;

- Details, through a Minister’s regulation, governing the methods available for CAs to determine costs specified municipalities may need to contribute for the authority’s mandatory programs and services under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*, and the *Lake Simcoe Protection Act, 2008* – i.e. ‘Determining Amounts Owed by Specified Municipalities regulation’;
- Classes of programs and services, through a Minister’s published list, in respect of which a conservation authority may charge a user fee – i.e. ‘Fee Classes Policy’, and
- Requirements to increase transparency of authority operations.

The ministry will be hosting a webinar focused for conservation authorities and Conservation Ontario, as well as general webinars, to provide an overview of the proposals and answer any technical questions you may have about the proposals. These webinars will take place on the dates and times listed below:

- Conservation Authority Focused Webinar: February 2, 2022, 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- Webinar Session 1: February 4, 2022, 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
- Webinar Session 2: February 10, 2022, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

If you wish to attend a webinar, please register by emailing ca.office@ontario.ca with the subject line “CAA Phase 2 Webinars” and indicate your preferred session date. You will receive a reply to your email with information on how to join.

Thank you in advance for your input. You can reach the Conservation Authorities Office at ca.office@ontario.ca if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Corrigan
Director, Conservation and Source Protection Branch



Report

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

RECOMMENDED BY: Hamilton Conservation Foundation Board of Directors

PREPARED BY: Grace Correia, Executive Director, Hamilton Conservation Foundation

DATE: February 3, 2022

RE: Naming of main trail in Saltfleet Conservation Area

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Hamilton Conservation Foundation's Board of Directors recommend to the Hamilton Conservation Authority Board of Directors:

THAT in recognition of the Heritage Green Community Trust's leadership donation to the Saltfleet Conservation Area Wetland Restoration project, the naming of the main trail in Saltfleet Conservation Area be offered as the Heritage Green Community Trust Trail;

THAT the name recognition, once approved by the HCA Board, be incorporated into the gift agreement between Hamilton Conservation Foundation and Heritage Green Community Trust.

BACKGROUND

Funding from the Heritage Green Community Trust, City of Hamilton and other donors allowed HCA to acquire the initial lands of what would become its newest conservation in over a decade, and starting the process for a large-scale, multi-year, restoration project to rehabilitate, create and protect wetlands on the east Hamilton escarpment. These initial lands were unveiled to the public in 2015 and the area officially named Saltfleet Conservation Area in 2017 and recently opened to the public October 2, 2021.

Foundation and HCA staff presented a proposal to Heritage Green Community Trust in October 2021, asking for a \$2 million contribution toward the construction of the first wetland in Saltfleet Conservation Area.

At that meeting and in subsequent conversations with Heritage Green Trustees and staff, the option of a naming opportunity to recognize the major donation was discussed as being of interest to the donor, and it was determined that the main trail to be incorporated into the conservation area would provide prominent naming recognition.

Subsequently, the Foundation was notified that Heritage Green has approved a \$2 million contribution for the wetland project, as requested.

A contribution agreement for the donation is being drafted which will outline the terms of the donation, payment timeline, and recognition for the donation.

STAFF COMMENT

HCA's current naming guidelines allow for a naming that recognizes individuals, organizations, businesses, and/or corporations that have made a substantive contribution of property or money to a specific conservation area, trail, building or recreational facility, in consideration of name recognition for that particular location or facility.

A map showing the approximate trail location within Saltfleet Conservation Area is attached.

The creation and construction of the first wetland for Saltfleet is an important step in the project and sets the stage for the creation of additional wetlands, land acquisition and will contribute directly to creating solution to address flooding and erosion in Hamilton, as well as protect and enhance natural spaces for the benefits of the watershed and provide recreational opportunities for the public.

Given the tremendous support the Heritage Green Community Trust, it is recommended that the main trail connecting the Saltfleet parking lot to the Dofasco 2000 Trail which will take visitor directly to the first wetland, be offered as a naming opportunity, as the Heritage Green Community Trust trail.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGE

The initiative refers directly to the HCA Strategic Plan 2019-2024:

- **Strategic Priority Area – Natural Area Conservation**
 - Implement the Saltfleet Conservation Area Wetland Restoration program and have the first wetland designed and constructed by 2021

AGENCY COMMENTS

Not applicable.

LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

CONCLUSIONS

With the project tender awarded by HCA Board of Directors on December 2, 2021 in the amount of \$2,020,549.95, Heritage Green Community Trust's contribution is substantive, almost fully funding the project. Naming of the main trail in recognition of their contribution is in line with current naming policies and fitting in light of the contribution level and provides prominent recognition for the donation.

Heritage Green's contribution and trail naming will be officially announced following approval of the naming and finalizing of the contribution agreement. The opportunity for an event to officially open the trail and further recognize the contribution will be considered once the project is completed and public health conditions allow us to do so. The trail name will be highlighted on trail signage and Heritage Green's support will be further recognized on on-site donor signage.

SALTFLEET CONSERVATION AREA - FIRST RD E, STONEY CREEK



LEGEND

-  Parking Lot
-  HCA LAND
-  Driveway
-  Trail

0 100 200 m




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Report

TO: Conservation Advisory Board Members

FROM: Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

RECOMMENDED BY: Matthew Hall, Director; Capital Projects & Strategic Services

PREPARED BY: Kathy Smith, Landscape Architect; Capital Projects & Strategic Services

MEETING DATE: December 9, 2021

RE: Fifty Point Conservation Area Master Plan

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

THAT this report and accompanying Master Plan of November 2021 be received as information for project background and general understanding; and further

THAT the Fifty Point Conservation Area Master Plan 2020 be approved.

BACKGROUND

An HCA 10 Year Masterplan Update Strategy was approved by CAB on February 14, 2019 and by the Board of Directors on March 7, 2019 for properties that HCA owns and manages. As per this strategy document, the scheduled property for review in 2020-21 is the Fifty Point Conservation Area.

An interim report on this plan was provided to CAB in June 2021. Since that time our public engagement, stakeholder, and agency review and commenting process was completed to help finalize the draft plan presented with this report. Work on this plan began January 2020 and was implemented by HCA staff through a four-stage process. Throughout the process the plan was refined through ongoing staff consultation, reviews by an in-house steering committee, and public circulation and input as follows:

Phase 1 Background began January 2020, was interrupted by the covid-19 pandemic and completed spring 2021. This phase included engagement of HCA staff and the steering committee, collection of mapping information, assembling background information, and presentation of an information report to CAB in June 2021

Phase 2 Inventory was also interrupted in 2020 by the pandemic, and completed by August 2021 with the collection and assembly of all-natural areas field surveys and mapping information, ecological reports, trail counter data and public surveys. Two public information booths were operated by staff in the conservation area in June 2021. Visitor surveys ran from May to mid August 2021, over 440 surveys were submitted by the public. Visitors to the information booths, and to HCA's online public engagement site, were able to register and join the stakeholders list and provide comments in Phase 4.

Phase 3 Concepts were completed in-house by HCA staff through a series of five facilitated workshop sessions covering site concepts/vision planning, financial sustainability, day use and campground operations, marina operations, and capital project priorities and plans. All information gathered was considered for the draft plan during this phase, along with the information submitted through public surveys. The plan was further refined from stakeholder comments received in Phase 4.

Phase 4 Summary and Public Input included reviews of the compiled draft plan by HCA staff and steering committee, outside agencies, stakeholders, CAB, Board of Directors, and members of the public who provided us with their contact information during the public engagement process. With the closing of the public commenting period November 26th, the Master Plan is now at 95% and will be completed upon endorsement by the Conservation Advisory Board, and adoption by the HCA Board of Directors.

STAFF COMMENT

Comments received during Phase 3 and 4 noted above, were reviewed with the HCA executive team and steering committee. The following is a brief overview of the key items brought forward that resulted in edits to the draft master plan:

- Section 3.4 Site Concept / Philosophy was brought into the executive summary, to set out the key items and vision for Fifty Point referenced in the remainder of the document.
- Section 3.7 Capital development priorities lists a number of major projects needed for the marina. The marina is a significant source of revenue for HCA, but it is worth noting that to sustain the operation over the next ten years capital projects estimated at approximately 3.95M will be required. In comparison, the entire capital expenditure for the Valens Master Plan was estimated at 4.9M. HCA is committed to sustaining Fifty Point's marina, campground, and day-use operations over the

next ten years, accordingly the capital projects noted in this plan have been assessed with this goal in mind.

- The eastern portion of the Fifty Point property is located within the municipal boundary of the Town of Grimsby and Niagara Region. HCA staff have consulted with officials from these agencies on the draft plan, and conducted two tours of the property with delegations to review areas of the property noted for future improvement.
- The majority of public comments received on the plan focused on community access into Fifty Point through the pedestrian gates. This plan sets out a high-level vision to address public access and park operations. The access projects noted in this plan will require more detailed design and approvals in order to be implemented, HCA is committed to working with all agencies and stakeholders to satisfactorily move these projects forward.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGE

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

- **Strategic Priority Area – Organizational Excellence**
 - Initiatives – Identify opportunities to engage the community, adjacent landowners, and Indigenous Peoples.
- **Strategic Priority Area – Natural Heritage Conservation**
 - Initiatives – Identify restoration projects in master plans.
 - Initiatives – Identify details of the approved Invasive Species Strategy and natural heritage plans in HCA master plans.
- **Strategic Priority Area – Conservation Area Experience**
 - Initiatives – Update and develop master and management plans, and implement priorities to further enhance conservation areas for current and future generations.

AGENCY COMMENTS

The plan reviews include lands within the municipal boundaries of the City of Hamilton, Town of Grimsby, and Region of Niagara. These agencies were circulated for their comments during Phase 4 of the public consultation period. Minor corrections to Zoning and Natural Heritage sections within the plan will be forthcoming as a result, prior to HCA Board of Directors approval.

LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

CONCLUSIONS

These plans will support the goals as outlined in HCA's 2019-2023 Strategic Plan as well as the Ten-Year Masterplan Update Strategy. This information has been provided as background for review, and recommendation that the Master Plan for Fifty Point Conservation Area be endorsed by the Board of Directors as the official policy document for the management and development of this conservation area.



Fifty Point Conservation Area Master Plan 2020

Final- January 2022



Prepared by: Hamilton Region Conservation Authority (HCA)
Photo Credits: HCA Staff, Bruce Harschnitz



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1.0 APPROVAL STATEMENT

We are pleased to approve the Fifty Point Conservation Area Master Plan as the official policy document for the management and development of this conservation area. This Master Plan supports the current Hamilton Region Conservation Authority’s (HCA) Strategic Plan.

This plan reflects HCA’s Vision for a healthy watershed for everyone and Mission to lead in the conservation of our watershed and connect people to nature.

Moving forward over the next ten years this plan will help guide the development and operation of the conservation area in support of these goals.

Lisa Burnside
Chief Administrative Officer
Hamilton Region Conservation Authority

Date

Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
Chair, Board of Directors
Hamilton Region Conservation Authority

Date



2.0 PREFACE

The Fifty Point Conservation Area Master Plan is the guiding policy document for the development and management of this conservation area which is owned and administered by the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority (HCA). The recommendations in this Master Plan are intended to help provide direction and guidance for sustainable management and operation of Fifty Point Conservation Area (Fifty Point) over the next ten years.

This Master Plan was developed by HCA staff utilizing in-house expertise and resources, with a public consultation process to receive input from stakeholders and the public as follows:

Phase 1 Background

Background review was initiated January 2020 with the HCA executive team review of the work plan, engagement of staff, collection of mapping information, and gathering information through staff meetings. The COVID-19 pandemic interrupted this phase of the project in 2020. This phase was completed by spring 2021 and presentation of an information report to the HCA Conservation Advisory Board in June 2021.

Phase 2 Inventory

Inventory includes the collection and assembly of natural areas field surveys and mapping information, ecological reports, trail counter data, and visitor surveys. The COVID-19 pandemic started affecting the project in March 2020, shutting down the site and collection of data. The biggest impact was missing the 2020 spring bird migration, which required extending the project to 2021 in order to gather this data. As well, our usual process of conducting visitor surveys on site were affected, and HCA explored other options for safe public engagement during the pandemic. Consequently, an on-line public engagement site was launched on HCA's website in May 2021. Visitor surveys for the marina, campground, and day-use areas were conducted on-line through the HCA website. Flyers were also posted and distributed in the park giving visitors QR codes and weblinks to take them to the surveys on their mobile devices. The survey period ran from May 21st to August 15, 2021 with 446 surveys submitted, the majority of the surveys coming from local residents very familiar with the conservation area. Two public information booths were operated by staff in the conservation area on July 3 and 31, 2021 to share information on the plan, respond to questions, and sign up people interested in receiving the draft plan for review and comment. Visitors to the public engagement site during this phase were also able to register to receive and comment on the draft master plan in Phase 4.

Phase 3 Concepts

Concepts in this plan were completed in-house by HCA staff and refined with the information in the public surveys and input from stakeholders. Staff professional expertise and experience, plus lessons learned from operating Fifty Point for decades helped inform this plan. Five facilitated workshop sessions were held with staff covering site concept and vision planning; financial sustainability; day use and campground operations, marina operations; and capital

project priorities and plans. All information gathered in this phase was presented internally to HCA staff for review and comment, and then compiled in the draft plan circulated in Phase 4.

Phase 4 Summary

Finalizing the draft Master Plan includes reviews of the compiled draft plan by staff, stakeholders, and board advisory members, and circulation to the public who registered in Phase 2. The final draft document includes all stakeholder and public comments. After receiving final comments, the plan is to be presented to the HCA Conservation Advisory Board, and then to the HCA Board of Directors for endorsement and final approval.



3.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3.1 Introduction

Fifty Point Conservation Area (Fifty Point) is an 80-hectare property owned and managed by the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority (HCA) located on Lake Ontario at the mouth of Fifty Mile Creek. Fifty Point is at the easterly boundary of HCA's watershed, and within the municipal boundary of the City of Hamilton (Stoney Creek) and Niagara Region (Town of Grimsby). The marina basin and pond are located within Stoney Creek and the campground and swimming beach within the Town of Grimsby. See Maps 1 and 2 in *Appendix 1* for more information.

Historically this area was primarily agriculture in nature, however, there are now significant development pressures surrounding the property and population growth is rapidly transforming the area. Consequently, Fifty Point has become a major waterfront destination experiencing more intensive recreational use than most other HCA areas. The natural areas of the property are also important refuge and habitat for migratory birds and other species being displaced by the surrounding development.



HCA started acquiring land for Fifty Point in 1970 and the original development plans were prepared in 1975. The conservation area opened to the public in 1978. Site development over the years has been guided through three previous Master Plans. This plan updates and replaces the 2000 Master Plan.

3.2 Goals

This Master Plan outlines the long-term goals for conservation and land management at Fifty Point, and is intended to be a living document that will be updated completely in ten years' time.

This plan supports the following goals as outlined in HCA's current strategic plan:

Vision

- A healthy watershed for everyone.

Mission

- To lead in the conservation of our watershed and connect people to nature.

Commitment and Corporate Values

- Provide excellent customer service and a solution-oriented approach.
- Be accountable, transparent, and responsible in the use of resources.
- Embrace new technologies to help develop new ways of doing business and foster innovation.
- Promote teamwork internally and externally to achieve common goals, support existing relationships and build new partnerships.
- Maintain trust, act with integrity, and treat others with respect.
- Value knowledge to continually learn and improve, in an effort to achieve best solutions.

Organizational Excellence

- Ensure corporate and financial viability and the HCA's relevance in the community.
- Identify opportunities to engage the community, adjacent landowners, and Indigenous Peoples.

Water Management

- Protect the watershed for people, property, flora and fauna, and natural resources through flood and erosion control, water quality programs, low flow augmentation and adaptation strategies to adapt to changing climatic conditions.

Natural Heritage Conservation

- Conservation, restoration and enhancement of watershed natural areas and ecology.
- Continue on-going ecological restoration projects and monitoring programs.
- Identify invasive species strategies and natural heritage plans in the Master plan.

Conservation Area Experience

- Provide high quality, diverse conservation areas that promote outdoor recreation, health, and well-being and strengthen public awareness of the importance of being in or near our conservation areas.
- Update and develop Master and management plans, and implement priorities to further enhance conservation areas for current and future generations.

Education and Environmental Awareness

- Provide outdoor learning experiences for students, teachers and the community, increasing knowledge and awareness of the value of our environment and heritage.



3.3 Objectives

The goals and objectives in the previous Master Plan have been assessed, and through consultation and analysis of current operations, the HCA supports the following long-term objectives for Fifty Point:

1. To conserve, restore, and manage natural areas (terrestrial and aquatic) in this multi-use

waterfront conservation area.

2. To provide visitors of all ages and abilities arriving by vehicle, bicycle, or walking-in access to quality recreational facilities and programs (active and passive).
3. To improve upon current facilities to maintain financial sustainability and minimize long-term operating costs.

3.4 Site Concept / Philosophy

Through our background work, consultation, and comments received, these key items were identified for Fifty Point to be addressed in this plan:

.1 Increased Visitation

Historically, most of the Fifty Point property was farmed until development of the QEW and subsequent acquisition of the lands by HCA. In recent years the conservation area has seen an influx of day-use visitors, on top of a fully occupied marina and well used campground. Population growth and surrounding development is bringing in more traffic and visitors. A greater number of visitors are arriving by bicycle or walking-in. Proposed in this plan are planning recommendations to improve pedestrian and bicycle access into Fifty Point from the surrounding community. The Covid-19 pandemic demonstrated the site's weaknesses in managing unanticipated high visitation. During the preparation of this plan, the public road allowance at the north end of Kelson Road became a public "hot spot" during the pandemic, with the public wanting to use this area to access the beach. HCA is in discussion with the Town of Grimsby on this area. Further discussions and consultation will be undertaken to help determine appropriate public use of this area for beach access. The operation of the two subdivision gates also needs to be considered.

Increased visitation and the trend towards larger recreational boats, trailers and vehicles are also straining the marina and campground, as well as the internal roadways and parking areas. This plan outlines general strategies to improve traffic flow and reduce congestion at key entrance areas, as well as options for community improvements outside the conservation area for municipal consideration. Roadway and parking improvements have also been accounted for in the capital development priorities list noted in *Appendix 2*.



To help reduce congestion at the main conservation area entrance, this plan proposes two enhanced secondary access points into the conservation area. The first access point would be a dedicated staff and service entrance from Baseline Road west of the main gate, at the driveway location of the current rental house. This area of the property would be converted into an improved work yard for park operations, and staff parking. The second access point would be an enhanced entrance off Kelson Road to permit more direct access to the beach area parking lots during peak summer holidays and weekends. This entrance would be operated and staffed as needed to divert traffic from Baseline Road and alleviate traffic stacking/bottlenecks at the main entrance. These two entrance points, along with the marina service gate at McCollum Road and road gate at Windermere Road, would also help with emergency access into the property as required.

HCA properties are trending towards increased visitation and parking across the entire watershed and this is not expected to decline. Visitor management and vehicle parking strategies are currently being investigated by HCA in response. Capital development of the features identified in this plan will need to consider these strategies and trends, and additional studies may be required to inform detailed planning, design, and operational improvements.

.2 Development of Adjacent lands

Adjacent lands targeted for potential development, as noted on the appended Map 2 - Site Context 'B' Map, could negatively affect the operation of the conservation area. The campground, for example, could be greatly impacted by adjacent development.

This plan does not presume HCA would acquire the adjacent land parcels on Kelson Road. High land costs have reduced HCA's potential to expand the conservation area by acquiring this parcel and the HCA's current Land Securement Strategy does not highlight these lands as targets for acquisition. Notwithstanding these two key items, the Board of Directors could consider their acquisition under supportive conditions and with funding in place. HCA welcomes support from the City of Hamilton, Town of Grimsby, and Niagara Region on this initiative. As a property owner, in addition to being a regulating body for portions of these lands, HCA will be commenting on proposed development plans for Kelson Road. When the lands to the west of Fifty Point were developed, HCA was involved in the subdivision development process and commented on buffer enhancements including fencing and landscaping for Fifty Point, that were conditions of that development. HCA anticipates similar enhancements would be required to buffer the east side of Fifty Point from adjacent development.

.3 Ingledale House

Future plans for the rental and operation of the Ingledale House need to be considered in the vision for the property. With the cultural heritage zone being set out in this plan, a full review of the Ingledale rental agreement and rental use of this area is recommended to

set out best practices for the continued care and operation of this heritage feature in the park.

.4 Shoreline Erosion

There will be ongoing needs to address impacts from high lake levels, shoreline erosion, climate change effects and weather impacts to park operations.

.5 Campground expansion

As noted in previous plans, expansion of the campground was partially acted on and the area north of the campground was evaluated for future campground expansion. Strong demand exists for more seasonal trailer sites, including potential for camping cabins. HCA will need to do a more detailed investigation of the costs to remediate the lands north of the campground for campsites and campground infrastructure, and weigh this against other recreation or naturalizing options, day use pressures, and the operational needs of the marina. The area to be further studied is noted on Maps 5 and 6 in *Appendix 1*.

.6 Marina

The Marina is a significant source of revenue for HCA and recommendations in this plan for the marina are of high importance.

.7 Conservation Area Zones

The priority of this plan is to conserve and protect the natural areas of the property while supporting recreational activities within this compact conservation area.

Nature reserve and natural area zones have been identified in this plan with management guidelines as outlined in Section 5.16. The ecological mapping and species data documented within this plan are also provided as a baseline inventory to help guide future land management decisions and project planning. Future site development may also be subject to review by the City of Hamilton, and the Niagara Region for those lands in their purview.



The forests at Fifty Point will continue to be managed under the objectives of the Managed Forest Plan for conservation, see *Appendix 6*. The long-term objective of this plan, watershed wide, is to have a healthy forest with short term objectives focused on thinning and planting. Invasive species management and restoration projects to help naturalize these areas will also be required to help support this objective.

3.5 Policy and By-Law Framework

Conservation areas owned and operated by the HCA are diverse in nature and spread across the HCA watershed. Fifty Point is at the easterly boundary of HCA's watershed. See *Map 1, Appendix 1* and Section 4 for more information.

HCA has approached this Master Plan with the mind-set that other conservation areas in the HCA portfolio requiring Master Plans or updates to Master Plans will follow a consistent methodology. Although Fifty Point is not located within the jurisdiction of the Niagara Escarpment Commission, the policies of the Niagara Escarpment Plan and guidelines of the Niagara Escarpment Parks and Open Space System (NEPOSS) 2012 planning manual have been observed in the preparation of this Master Plan.

HCA recognizes that certain public infrastructure such as utility corridors, trails, or transportation links may be required to cross conservation area lands. HCA policy for planning review and regulation of these features adheres to the *Conservation Authorities Act, R.S.O. 1990, C.27*. See Section 7 for more information.

The Fifty Point Conservation Area Master Plan adheres to policies of the Hamilton Conservation Authority, City of Hamilton, Niagara Region, and provincial policy. Portions of the property are within the Greenbelt Plan, urban boundary of the City of Hamilton, Town of Grimsby and the boundary of Niagara Region. See *Map 2, Appendix 1*.

HCA will consult with outside agencies, and obtain the required approvals and permits when implementing projects flowing from this Master Plan.

3.6 Master Plan Zones

A 10 Year Masterplan Update Strategy was approved by HCA's Board of Directors in 2019 for properties that HCA owns and manages. As per this strategy document, guidelines were set out for the completion of HCA Master Plans (including Management Plans and Study Areas). This strategy noted that HCA lands that lie within the boundary of the Niagara Escarpment Plan will need Master Plan approval from the Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC) for HCA to formally ratify them. Consequently, HCA strategically decided to develop all HCA Master Plans within the guidelines of the Niagara Escarpment Parks and Open Spaces System (NEPOSS), which is a requirement of the NEC for any public agency NEPOSS park Master Plans. The NEPOSS policy framework ensures HCA follows a consistent methodology for all plans, and the plans are developed to an appropriate level of detail with sufficient public consultation for all proposed land improvements and uses.

This Master Plan follows the NEPOSS planning manual and identifies six land use zones for Fifty Point. These zones are intended to help guide future planning, development, and management of the conservation area. The zone boundaries are shown in more detail in *Appendix 1 – Conservation Area Zones Map 4*.

Zones are intended to fulfill a variety of functions in the conservation area, including the following as outlined in the current NEPOSS manual:

- Identification and recognition of the features and attributes.
- Protection of key natural heritage features and cultural heritage features and functions.
- Segregation of conflicting recreational activities by directing activities with higher impacts to the least sensitive areas and low-impact activities to areas that are more sensitive, if appropriate.
- Delineation of areas on the basis of their requirements for management.
- Standardization of the approach to support management objectives and actions, based on a variety of features.
- Balancing of public use with the preservation of the natural environment.



There six land use zones identified are:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| ○ Nature Reserve Zone | ○ Natural Zone |
| ○ Access Zone | ○ Cultural Heritage Zone |
| ○ Development Zone | ○ Resource Management Zone |

The following sections briefly describe each zone. The tables in each section provide a zone description, management direction, and permitted uses, including types of development in each zone. All resource, recreational, and facility development uses are subject to Canadian legislation and policies governing public lands and conservation areas, as well as the resource management policies identified in Section 7.

Appendix 7 contains the natural inventory species lists from background research and field work completed for the preparation of the Master Plan. In this Master Plan, “species at risk” means species listed by the MECP or Government of Canada as threatened, endangered, extirpated or extinct in Ontario including:

- Species designated as endangered, threatened or special concern by the Species at

Risk Act (federal) via the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) and listed in Section 5.14.

- Species designated as endangered threatened, or special concern by the Endangered Species Act (provincial) via the Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario (COSSARO).

Fifty Point was divided into five functional zones in the 1992 Master Plan Update: Entry, Marina, Campground, Day Use, and Maintenance. These functional zones have been reviewed in this Master Plan and are included in the following land use zone tables.



Nature Reserve Zone

Nature reserve zones include significant earth and life science features which require management distinct from that in adjacent zones, as well as a protective buffer with an absolute minimum of development. Fifty Point's nature reserve zones contain the Fifty Mile Creek wetlands, woodlands and water courses, fishing pond, and associated environmentally significant areas.

Table 1. Nature Reserve Zone

Zone	Description	Management Direction	Permitted Uses (subject to management planning)
Nature Reserve (wetland)	<p>Include significant natural heritage features or areas that require careful management to ensure the long-term protection of natural heritage features.</p> <p>Intended to protect in perpetuity features and values of selected life and earth science areas such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Habitat of endangered, threatened, and rare species or species of special concern. ➤ Significant Wildlife and fish habitat. ➤ Hydrological systems (e.g. streams, wetlands, ponds) ➤ Significant Woodlands ➤ Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI) ➤ Significant landforms or escarpment features 	<p>These areas are predominantly natural and should contain naturally functioning ecosystems.</p> <p>This zone is intended to protect natural heritage features in the long-term.</p>	<p>To protect, preserve, and rehabilitate identified natural heritage features, visitor uses are limited or restricted.</p> <p>Development is generally restricted to trails, necessary signs, interpretive facilities (where warranted), temporary research facilities and conservation practices.</p>

Natural Zone

Natural zones include natural, cultural, and aesthetic landscapes in which minimum development is required to support low-intensity recreational activities.

Fifty Point's natural zones are primarily the wooded areas adjacent to Fifty Mile Creek.

Table 2. Natural Zone

Zone	Description	Management Direction	Permitted Uses (subject to management planning)
Natural	Includes natural and high-quality natural settings, and aesthetic landscapes in which a minimum of development is permitted to support low to moderate intensity recreational activities.	The Natural Zone can function as a buffer between Development Zones and Historical or Nature Reserve Zones.	Low to moderate intensity recreational activities are permitted. A minimal level of development (e.g. trails, backcountry campsites, necessary signs and minimal interpretive facilities) is permitted to support low-intensity recreational activities.



Access Zone

Access zones serve as staging areas to support adjacent zones.

Fifty Point’s access zones are the main park entrance on Baseline Road, secondary gated access from Kelson Road, service access to the work yard from Baseline Road, and service access to the marina from McCollum Road. There are also two pedestrian access gates and potential for two more pedestrian access areas identified in this plan. This zone replaces the Entry Zone noted in previous master plans.

Table 3. Access Zone

Zone	Description	Management Direction	Permitted Uses (subject to management planning)
Access	Serve as staging areas (e.g. trailheads, parking lots) where minimal facilities support the use the Nature Reserve Zones and relatively undeveloped Natural and Cultural Heritage zones.	Access zones are intended to support the use of and access to adjacent zones.	Development may include minimal facilities to support Nature Reserve, Natural, and Cultural Heritage Zones. Examples include roads, signs, trailheads, and parking lots.



Cultural Heritage Zone

Cultural heritage zones are intended to protect significant archaeological or cultural heritage features.

Fifty Point's cultural heritage zone includes the Ingledale House and associated buildings and landscaping.

Table 4. Cultural Heritage Zone

Zone	Description	Management Direction	Permitted Uses (subject to management planning)
Cultural Heritage	Include significant archaeological or cultural heritage features or areas that require management that will ensure the long-term protection of the significant features.	Management planning for archaeological or cultural heritage features may range from maintaining their present condition to restoring and/or reconstructing the site.	Development will include protection and interpretation of archaeological or cultural heritage features. Examples include interpretive, educational, research and management facilities, trails, signs and historical restorations or reconstructions.



Development Zone

Development zones provide the main access to the conservation area for the visitor.

Fifty Point's development zones includes all park roads and parking areas, marina, campground, day use activity areas, buildings, and work areas for conservation area operations. This zone replaces individual zones for each of these areas noted in previous master plans.

Table 5. Development Zone

Zone	Description	Management Direction	Permitted Uses (subject to management planning)
Development	<p>Development Zones provide the main access to the conservation area or open space, and facilities and services to support the recreational activities available.</p> <p>This type of zone may allow for the development of visitor and conservation area facilities.</p>	<p>A Development Zone is usually oriented to the provision of recreational opportunities that are suited to the natural character of the conservation area or open space. Approved recreational activities are conducted in an environmentally sustainable manner.</p> <p>This zone should have minimal negative impact on natural heritage features, cultural heritage features, the natural landscape or watersheds.</p> <p>Development Zones are not permitted within / inside Nature Reserves.</p>	<p>Development may include roads, parking lots and gates, beaches, picnic areas, campgrounds and commercial service facilities, and orientation, interpretive, educational, research, and maintenance facilities.</p> <p>Development of facilities must be designed and undertaken in a way that will minimize their environmental and visual impact.</p>

Resource Management Zone

Resource management zones include areas managed to provide resource-related projects such as forest products, disturbed areas requiring restoration, and land that has a long-term resource agreement such as a managed forest.

Fifty Point's resource management zones include managed forest, Lake Ontario shoreline, and former agricultural lands.

Table 6. Resource Management Zone

Zone	Description	Management Direction	Permitted Uses (subject to management planning)
Resource Management	<p>Includes certain public lands that are managed primarily to provide resource-related benefits such as forest products, fish and wildlife, or flood control.</p> <p>Previously disturbed sites (e.g. old farm fields, abandoned quarries) where active measures are being taken to re-establish natural vegetation.</p> <p>May include land that has traditionally been managed under long-term resource agreements (e.g., forest management agreements or agricultural leases)</p>	<p>Resource Management Zones are sustainably managed for many diverse values such as wildlife, fisheries, forestry and outdoor recreation.</p> <p>Such zones may be places for experimenting with alternative resource management practices and developing a better understanding of ecosystem structures and functions in a scientifically sound manner. Should demonstrate exemplary conservation and stewardship.</p> <p>Should not be established in Nature Reserves.</p>	<p>These areas may be used to demonstrate ecologically sustainable resource management practices.</p> <p>Establishing permanent research plots for monitoring purposes (e.g. permanent sample plots for growth and yield studies) is encouraged in this zone.</p> <p>Water may be controlled for purposes related to flood protection, watershed management, or municipal water supply.</p> <p>Recreation uses in this zone are subject to HRCA policies and management planning.</p>

3.7 Development Priorities

The capital development priorities and estimates of development costs for Fifty Point over the next ten years are listed in *Appendix 2* and shown in *Appendix 1*, Map 5. Site Concept.

All development projects are to be reviewed annually for the life of this Master Plan, and the capital development priority list updated as necessary. Capital projects should not be started until a long-term strategy with timelines and costs for each project are clearly defined and sufficient resources are available to complete them. See Section 8.2 for further information.

Significant capital development for Fifty Point over the next ten years falls within these categories:

.1 Replace Significant Park Features

These significant park features require ongoing repairs for public safety, are nearing or past the end of their life cycle, and are proposed to be replaced or expanded upon:

- Marina Piling – height extension to existing pilings, as well as expansion / new pilings.
- Marina Docks – replacement and reconfiguration.
- Marina Boardwalks - replacement
- Fishing Pond Access Platforms
- Main Park Roads and parking area improvements.



.2 Add New Park Features

These capital projects are proposed to serve a greater number of visitors, generate revenue, and improve customer service:

- Access improvements at the Kelson Road service entrance to provide for secondary access into the day use beach area.
- Swipe card access gate(s) at or near the main park entrance for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Passive recreation expansion north of the campground.

.3 Enhance Existing Park Features

These capital projects are proposed to enhance existing park features and improve customer service:

- Access improvements at the main park entrance including road works to improve traffic flow, improved signage, and associated security fencing, gates, and gatehouse upgrades.

- Site improvements west of the main park entrance for a separate staff and service entrance and improved work yard, including road works, signage, and associated security fencing and gates.
- Swipe card upgrades to re-open existing pedestrian access gates on the west fence located at Greenstem Crescent and McCollum Road.
- Provide additional secure boat storage areas for the marina operation.
- Improve the existing day use parking areas.
- Improve the beach washrooms.
- Add a public washroom near the fishing pond day use area, explore use of the Ingledale House to achieve this objective.
- Add a park pavilion at the campground.
- Improve the fishing pond north parking area and pond access.
- Improve trail access between all parking lots and activity areas.



4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 Study Area

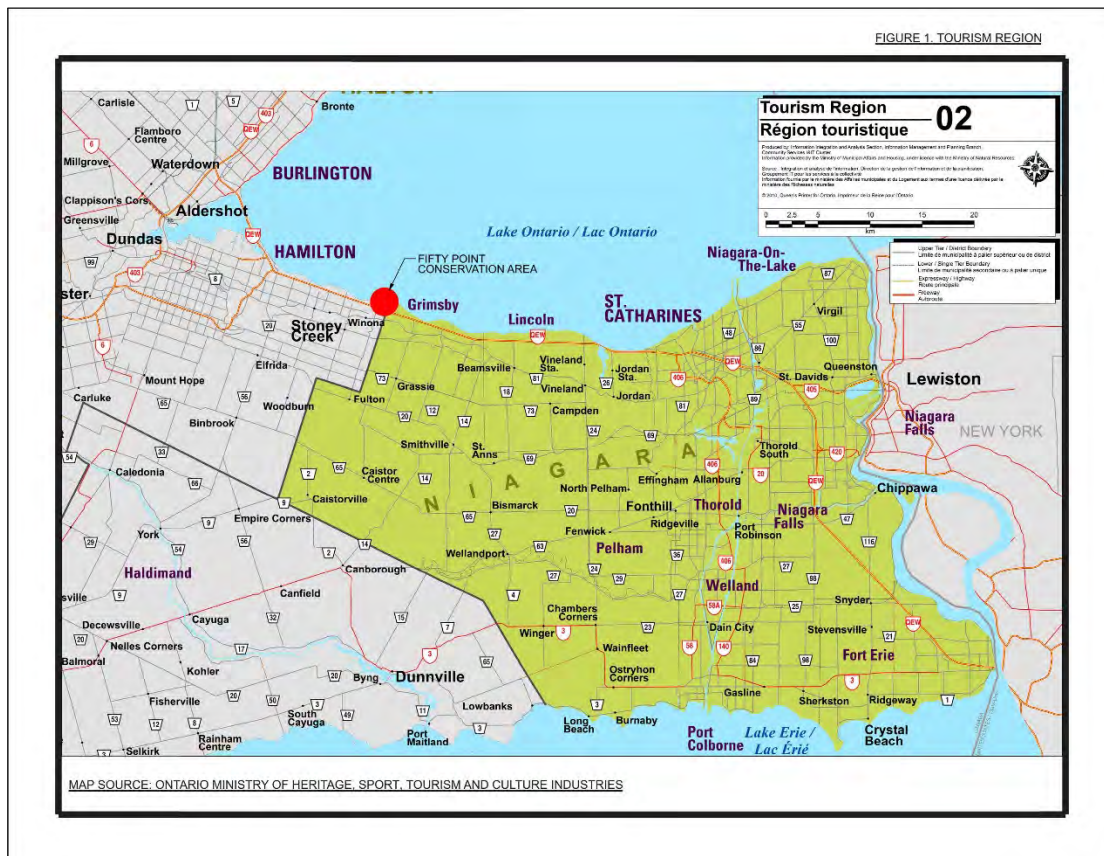
Fifty Point Conservation Area is located on the southern shoreline of Lake Ontario, and straddles the municipal boundaries of the City of Hamilton and Niagara Region. The property is owned and operated by HCA, and situated within the Stoney Creek Numbered Watercourses sub-watershed regulated by HCA. The study area and sub-watershed boundaries are shown in Figure 2, page 28.

The main entrance at 1479 Baseline Road is near the North Service Road at Fifty Road and the Queen Elizabeth Way (QEW). Fifty Point is bounded by Kelson Avenue North on the east and the Lake Pointe residential community to the west. Fifty Point and the Biggar Lagoon Wetlands to the east, are the few remaining natural lands in this area accessible to the public.

Fifty Point has become a popular day-trip and family vacation destination within easy driving distance from major urban centers in southern Ontario.

With direct access to Lake Ontario and an established Marina, the park welcomes both visitors and boaters from all across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton area as well as Niagara Region. Figure 1 shows the tourism market area considered by this master plan.

Figure 1. Tourism Region



During the preparation of this Master Plan, three visitor surveys were distributed online and at the park. One survey targeted day-use visitors, another addressed camping and the third focused on boating and the Marina. These public surveys ran from May 27 to August 15, 2021. See Marketing Section 6.5 for the survey analysis.

Development proposed for Fifty Point will require review by the Hamilton Conservation Authority, the City of Hamilton, and Niagara Region. Draft copies of this document are to be circulated to these agencies, and their comments will be addressed in the finalized master plan.

Figure 2 shows the overall study area and HCA landholdings associated with Fifty Point. This master plan update is part of a ten-year strategy for reviewing HCA lands across the watershed. HCA staff are following this strategy to systematically glean valuable scientific data and site information from targeted study areas, and to use this information in the preparation of master and management plans.

4.2 Property History

Fifty Point is an 80-hectare conservation area owned and operated by the Hamilton Conservation Authority. See Section 4.6 for the history of the property prior to HCA purchase.

In 1971, HCA purchased the land collectively with the Province of Ontario from the Carpenter family to develop the Fifty Point Conservation Area. By that time, materials had been excavated from the property in the building of the QEW, creating the fishing pond we see on site today.

The original Master Plan for Fifty Point was prepared in 1975, recommending that “the Fifty Point Conservation Area be developed as an intensive use, recreation area including the following uses: boating, camping, picnicking, swimming, hiking, nature and historical interpretation, fishing, skating, cross country skiing, snow shoeing, skin diving, water skiing and related activities.”

The second Master Plan was prepared in 1992, and by this time the following developments were realized on site: the road system; Ingledale House renovations; work compound; marina construction (312 slips); beach development; picnic areas along Fifty Creek; and shoreline stabilization. The main goals of this plan were to examine water recreation and investigate increasing the marina significantly to serve the boating market (with upwards of 1,900 slips). It was also noted that development of a campground would serve visitors travelling the QEW, and a 136- site campground was proposed in this plan.



The third Master Plan was prepared in 2000. In the early 2000's, significant capital works were undertaken at the marina to rebuild the marina walls, funding was also obtained at that time for channel dredging and shoreline protection. Once these projects were completed, improvement of the boat ramp and associated trailer parking area was completed, as well as sewer and water main projects in the park. Serviced campground sites were added to serve the growing recreational vehicle (RV) / trailer market. Ball hockey came into the park and operated until 2020. Parking areas near the beach were improved. A recreational trail system, lookout platforms, and new fishing bridge over the pond were installed. The marina boat lift was repaired for a number of years to keep it in operation, and eventually replaced with a new lift so the marina boat hauling will be well served for the life of this plan. To sustain revenue, the automated gates were installed at the main entrance consistent with other HCA conservation areas, and revenue options with the marina such as food services, restaurant etc. were added to the park operations. Evaluation of these services needs to be continually assessed in the annual business plan for Fifty Point.

Of most significance since the 2000 Master Plan have been changes to the surrounding lands at Fifty Point. Prior to 2000 HCA owned land parcels south of Baseline Road and to the west of the conservation area. Those lands were sold by HCA for needed revenue and converted to the residential development we see today. The pedestrian gates to the Lake Pointe community were installed during this development phase. HCA also leased land to the City of Hamilton for the installation of the sewage pumping station adjacent to the marina at McCollum Road. These land use changes can be seen on the aerial photos and in *Appendix 1*.



4.3 Planning and Development Controls

Fifty Point is essentially split along the border of two municipalities: City of Hamilton (Stoney Creek) and Niagara Region (Town of Grimsby). The division begins at the intersection of Baseline Road and Winston Road and follows Fifty Mile Creek to the shoreline of Lake Ontario. Significant features of the Hamilton portion of the property include the marina, fishing pond,

Ingleddale House and the main entrance. The Niagara Region side is comprised of the campground and day-use beach.

See Figure 3, Zoning Map (page 29) for the location of the zoning areas as described below.

The western portion of Fifty Point in the Stoney Creek community, is under the City of Hamilton's zoning by-law, the property falls within Ward 10, and is classified as Open Space (P4). There is a small portion at Baseline Road classified as Highway Commercial (HC-1H) as well as a small portion near the municipal boundary as Intensive Recreation (IR).

In the Urban Hamilton Official Plan, lands within Fifty Point are designated as Open Space (Schedule E1). This plan also identifies areas of Fifty Point as Core Areas and Linkages, which form part of the City's Natural Heritage System (Schedule B). This includes Significant Woodlands (Schedule B-2), Fifty Mile Creek Non-Provincially Significant Wetland (Schedule B-4), Lake Ontario (Schedule B-5), Fifty Mile Creek Environmentally Significant Area ESA (Schedule B-6), and Watercourses (Schedule B-8), and linkage areas west of the fishing point and surrounding a section of the wetland within the southern portion of the property (Schedule B).

The Ingleddale House at Fifty Point has heritage designation from the City of Hamilton. See Section 4.7. The City also notes in the Official Plan that the land contains high Archaeological Potential.

The eastern section of Fifty Point is within jurisdiction of the Town of Grimsby. The Grimsby Official Plan designates areas as Park & Open Space and Environmental Protection (01 and 02) (Schedule B).

As shown in *Appendix 1, Map 1*, there are planning and development controls in the area that are restricting development near Fifty Point. These include the Greenbelt Plan and Niagara Escarpment Plan. The Official Plan for Grimsby also notes the urban boundary expansion to Fifty Point, and an area of intense urban development at Casablanca Boulevard, within easy walking and cycling distance to the conservation area. The proposed GO Station south of the QEW at Casablanca Boulevard is also within cycling and hiking distance to Fifty Point via Casablanca and Oakes Road North over the QEW. The outcome of the area planning and development controls is very evident now in the community with the new residential and commercial development between Fifty Road and Casablanca Boulevard (See *Appendix 1, Map 2*).

A review of current demographic trends reveals this area is growing at 2x the provincial average, and over the lifespan of this master plan population growth in the area is estimated to add 20,000 more residents within 15 minutes travel to the conservation area. It is anticipated many of these new residents will seek access to the shoreline and natural areas for recreation and Fifty Point will be receiving more visitors. During the preparation of this master plan we observed higher gate attendance than previous years of operation. This visitation trend is anticipated to continue for the life of this plan drawing from the surrounding growing community. See *Appendix 5* for more information.

Figure 2. Watersheds and Study Area

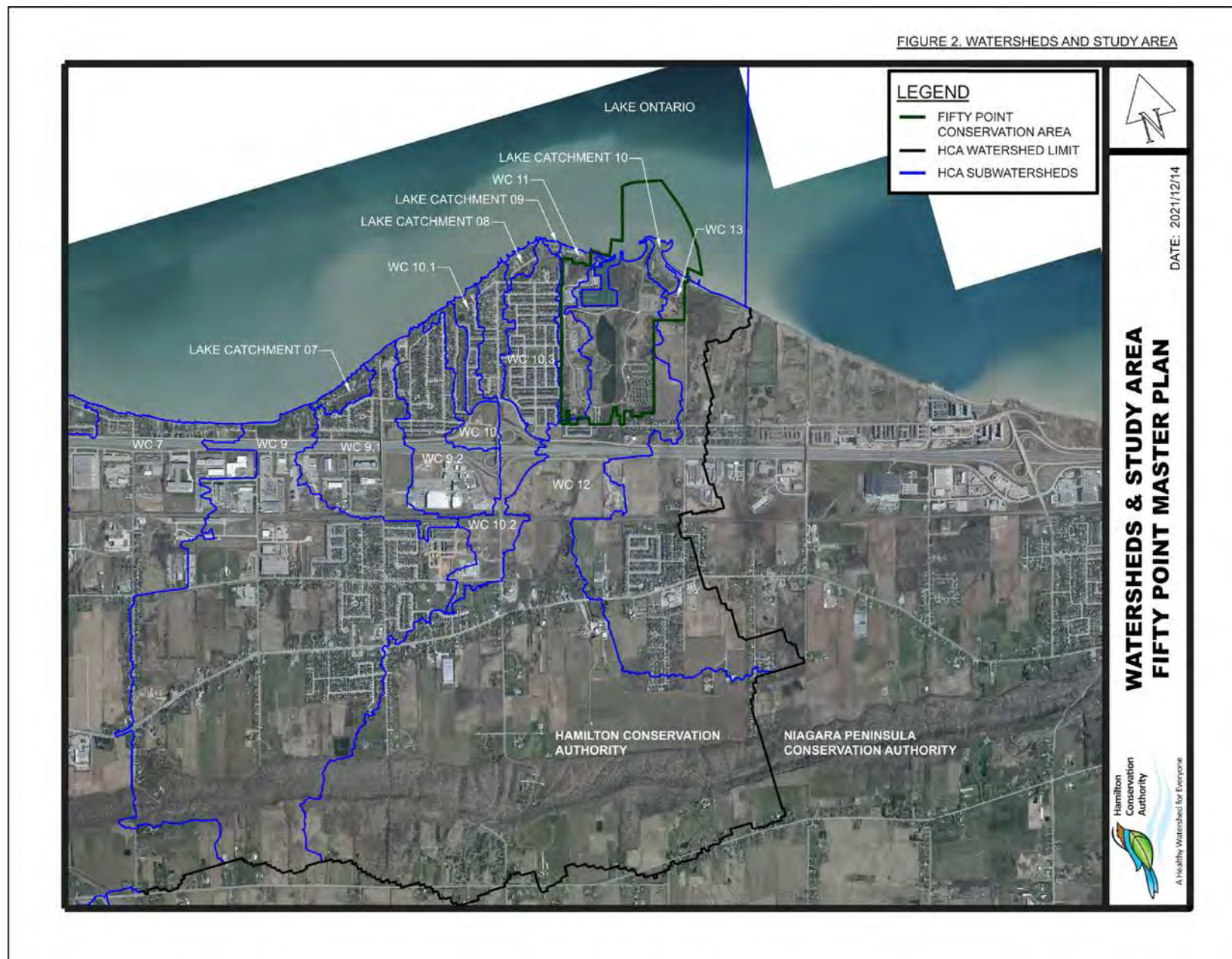
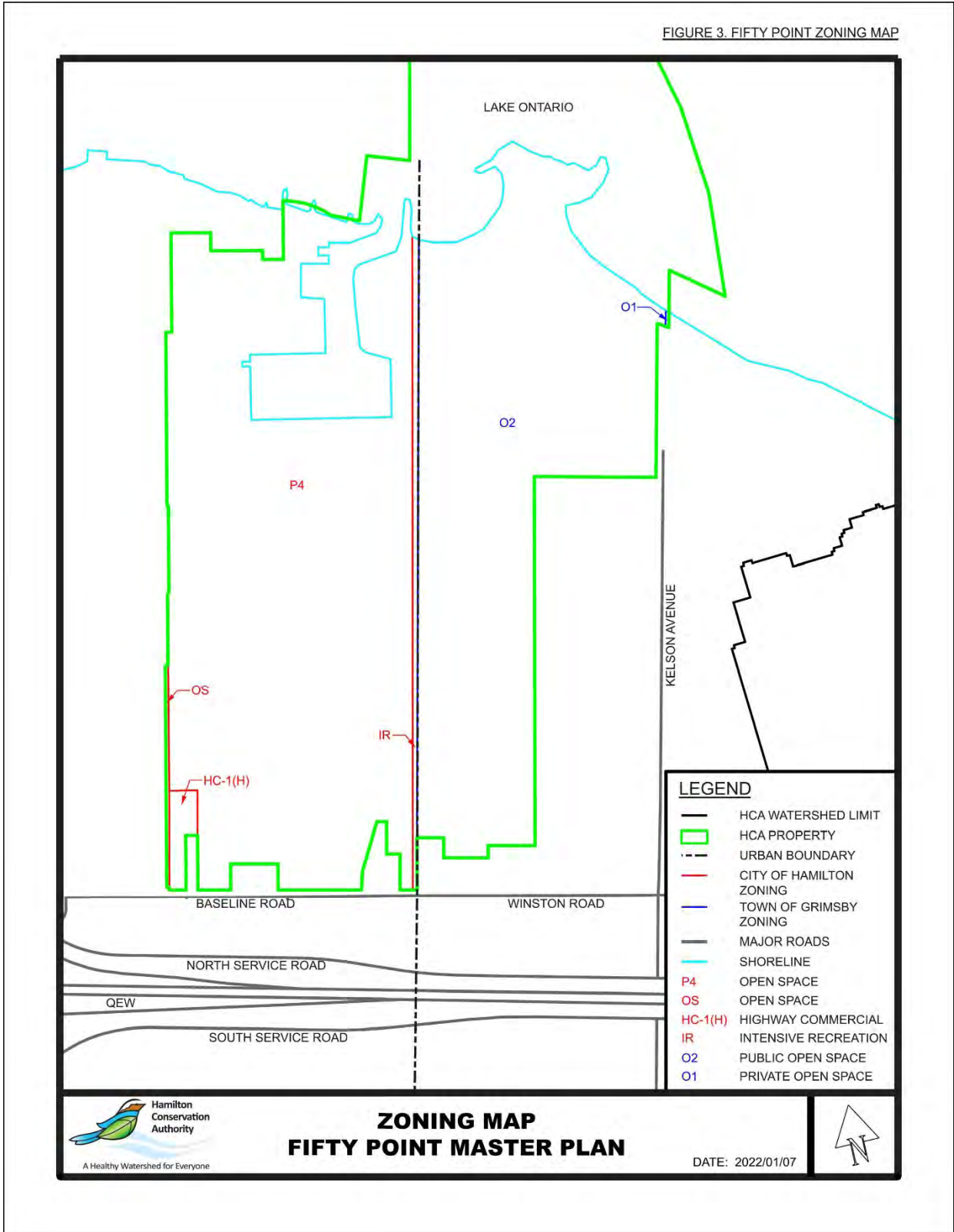


Figure 3. Fifty Point Zoning Map



4.3.1 Planning Recommendations for the Fifty Point Area

During the writing of this plan, the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated community planning and design weaknesses in serving the large volumes of visitors to Fifty Point. This section outlines issues encountered by HCA, with suggested recommendations for future planning and design consideration.

The conservation area closed in spring 2020 at the beginning of the pandemic, affecting the boating and camping season, as well as gate revenue. Upon re-opening visitation surged, with double the amount of day use visitors entering the park when compared to previous years. This doubling of visitors was on top of the regular marina and campground attendance. It is not certain if this trend will be sustained as pandemic restrictions ease and the US border fully opens. However, it is reasonable to expect that if a portion of the new visitors that have “discovered” Fifty Point during the pandemic make return visits, visitation numbers will trend upwards for the life of this Master Plan. This is in addition to the population growth projected for the surrounding community that is already bringing more walk-in visitors.

During the pandemic, summer visitation to Fifty Point created traffic problems on Baseline Road, particularly on weekends and at peak holidays. Long line-ups of vehicles trying to enter at the main gate stacked the length of Baseline Road to the commercial plaza at Lockport Way. Parking at the commercial plaza and area roads happened when visitors could not enter Fifty Point. Neighbours were negatively impacted by traffic congestion blocking their homes. The park gate closed at peak times when the beach areas became too crowded, resulting in frustrations at



the gate turning people away, and problematic for admitting marina patrons and visitors who had reserved campsites. Kelson Road became a hot spot for parking. Police were called in at various times for traffic control outside the conservation area. The Town of Grimsby also stepped up their efforts on Kelson Road for parking enforcement and garbage cleanup from the high number of visitors using this ungated area to access the beach. HCA reached out to the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail organization to have them remove mention of trail access at this location from their website and trail maps. All of these issues point to the need for further planning review to determine better solutions for community planning, traffic control, visitor management, and community beach access and recreational trail connections.

Another outcome of the pandemic HCA encountered was the need to monitor the visitor numbers on site to ensure social distancing could be maintained. One method of control was to close the unsupervised pedestrian access gates along the western boundary by the Lake Pointe community. HCA received a number of public comments sent in to the office, and submitted in the day use surveys requesting the pedestrian gates be re-opened. Both

for convenience to the community, and safety concerns using Baseline/Winston Road which currently has no sidewalks or marked bike lanes. For these pedestrian gates to re-open HCA recommends three strategies. One, that public sidewalks and bike lanes be installed on Baseline/Winston Road so that visitors may safely use this road to enter at the main park gate. Two, that the existing pedestrian gates at the subdivision be re-designed so an HCA pass card is required to swipe and enter, and that trails in the park to these gates be modified so that staff can easily see and monitor the gate activity. And three, that beach access from Kelson Road be further reviewed with the Town of Grimsby and neighbouring landowners along with HCA's plans to use the service entrance at this location as an alternative park entrance for Fifty Point.

The Niagara Region Transportation Master Plan notes there are streets in the surrounding community in transition, as farmland becomes converted to urban development. Baseline Road as it is currently designed does not provide a safe and comfortable environment for pedestrians and cyclists. As well, with the increased residential development, more vehicle traffic is in the area and as the pandemic has shown traffic bottlenecks have occurred at the entrance into Fifty Point. It is recommended that Baseline/Winston Road be studied further by the municipalities and targeted for priority planned improvements to address these needs. As suggested in the Niagara transportation plan "all Regional Road projects identified in the Road Capital Plan, including repaving, (use) a Complete Streets approach, designing roads to be universally accessible, safe and comfortable for all users." (page 57).

Aside from Baseline/Winston Road and Kelson Road traffic, the other area of planning concern for HCA and some area residents are the agricultural lands on Kelson Road abutting Fifty Point. These lands are excluded from the Green Belt area of planning control. Development of these lands without adequate buffers to Fifty Point would negatively affect the Fifty Point operation. HCA is interested in further discussion on the future planning of these lands.



Ingledale House 1938

4.4 Buildings

See Section 4.6 and 4.7 for historic buildings, and *Appendix 1*, Map 8. for building locations.

The original remaining farm building on the property, the Ingledale House, is a designated heritage building. The second floor of this house is currently used as a rental residence, the main floor is open only by appointment for heritage interpretation, tours, and research. See Section 10.2 and 10.3 for more information.

HCA commenced site development at Fifty Point in 1971 to prepare for the opening of the property in 1978. During that time a modest gravel road brought visitors to the Lake Ontario shoreline near the mouth of Fifty Mile Creek. Where the beach is today there was about a 2m bluff at the shoreline with a narrow beach at the bottom of the bluff. The beach as we know it today began to develop in the 1980's when the land spit was constructed out into the lake east of the creek.

Most of the park infrastructure commenced in the 1980's and the capital assets are now showing their age. A cursory overview of the building assets follows:

By 1983 the first park superintendent was living on site in the house at Baseline Road, west of the main entrance at the workshop area. The house was renovated and added to in 1989 and maintained over the years as a superintendent's residence. Since 2006 it has been used as a rental residence, however the ongoing maintenance and upkeep of this building exceeds the revenue potential for HCA.

The marina, campground and day use building development began in the 1980's with the first washroom buildings and beach house. As the marina was developed, in the 1990's the marina and campground washrooms were added. As noted in the 2000 Master Plan map, at the corner of Shippee Ave and McCollum Road was a driveway that went east from this intersection to two residences associated with the McCollum family. The driveway looped north up to Windermere Road. Remnants of this lane are still visible in the woodlot north of the marina. The houses were demolished in the 2000's and the boat launch trailer parking lot and restaurant parking lot constructed in this area has erased remnants of this past occupation.



Since the 2000 Master Plan the entrance gatehouse was enlarged with the automated gates arriving in 2013. The Winona and Lakeside Pavilions were added as well as the workshop building. Not constructed but shown in this plan are two buildings for the campground – a gatehouse at the road entrance to the campground, as well as another comfort station for campground expansion. This plan does not propose installation of these buildings.

4.5 Physical Features

Fifty Point is a significant greenspace on this rapidly urbanizing area of Lake Ontario shoreline.

The landforms within the park are largely artificial and include ponds, a reclaimed land spit, and a man-made beach. Fifty Mile Creek and the treed buffer along the creek forms a significant

natural corridor running through the centre of the property. This corridor will remain protected through the conservation zoning set out in this plan.

There are two beaches in the conservation area. The small one at the mouth of Fifty Creek has not changed much in overall size since 1983 and pet owners are allowed to use this area. The man-made main swimming beach is one of the largest in this area of Lake Ontario.

A substantial woodlot near the shoreline, as well as fragmented managed forest areas, and scattered trees and shrubs in the groomed activity areas help provide habitat and refuge for wildlife. Fifty Point is a significant site for migratory birds, with the natural areas and ponds providing feeding and rest areas for a variety of waterfowl, shorebirds, and songbirds.



The Ingledale House is a historical landmark. The house and associated buildings and landscaping are a unique cultural heritage feature at the centre of the conservation area.

The majority of the land at Fifty Point was previously farmed, and there are fragments of past orchard and vineyard cultivation north of the campground. Some of the resource management areas noted in this plan contain parent soils original to the area at time of European contact.

Figure 4, (page 35) 1975 Existing Vegetation, is from the first Master Plan prepared for Fifty Point. The cultivated orchards and vineyards east of the creek contained Concord and Niagara grapes, sour and sweet cherries, and plum and pear trees. Along the westerly boundary Concord and Niagara grapes, cherry, apple and pear trees were in production. The woodlot was confined to the creek corridor and along the waterfront. Other vegetation noted surrounded the Ingledale House including the drive to the house from Baseline Road. A number of plant species are noted in the 1975 plan at the Ingledale House, this provides a good reference for HCA for future landscape development of this cultural heritage feature.

See Section 5 for more information on the physical and natural features of Fifty Point.

4.6 Cultural Heritage

The Hamilton Conservation Authority recognizes the Fifty Point area was inhabited and governed by First Nations prior to European contact. Respect for the cultural heritage of Indigenous Peoples is supported in this Master Plan and HCA's Strategic Plan. See Section 7.4 Cultural Heritage Management.

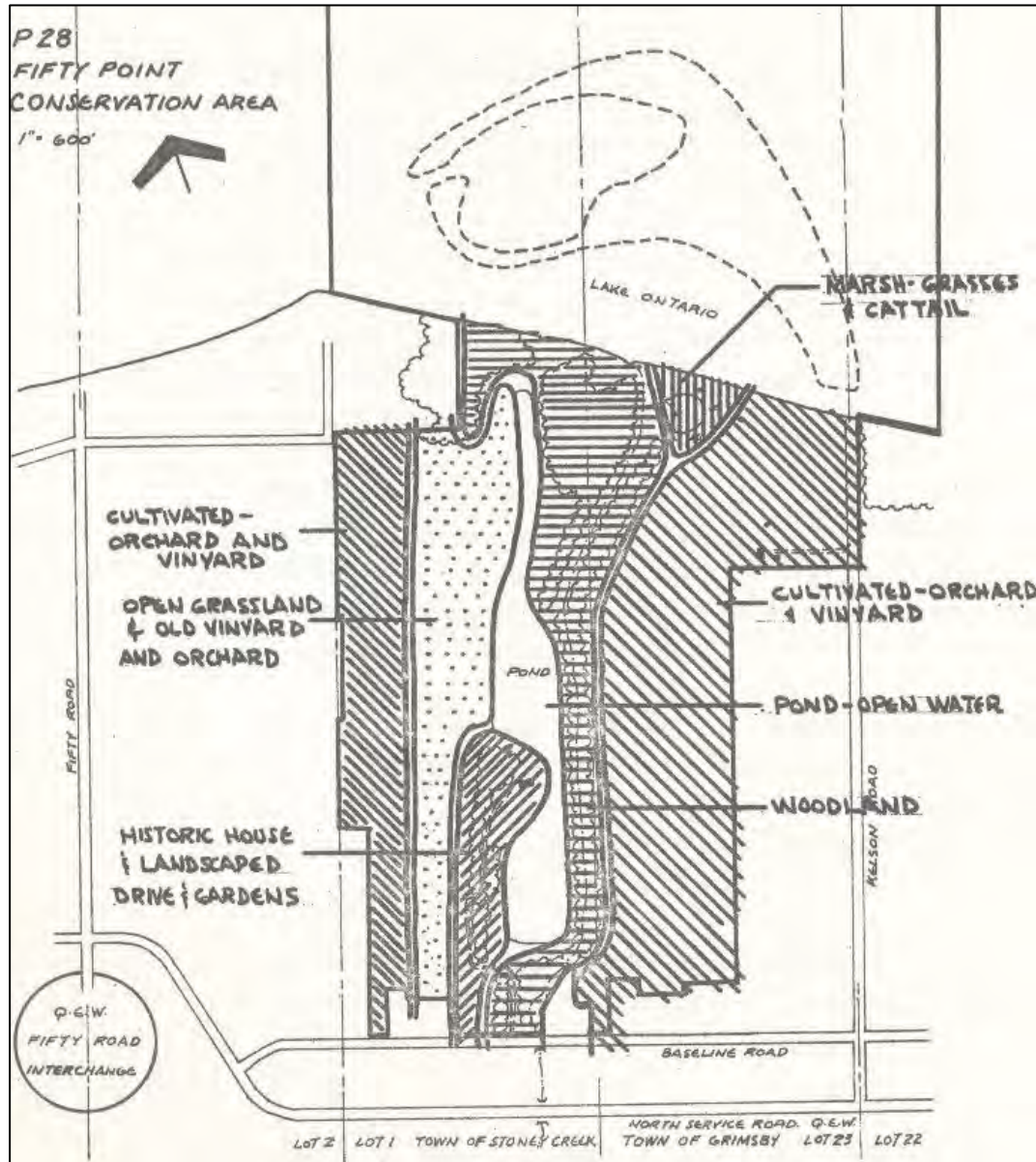
The first known written records for this property state it was originally owned by John Green, who with his wife Mary Davis immigrated to Upper Canada (Ontario) in 1787 as United Empire Loyalists. In 1813, John Green registered the purchase of Broken Front Concession Lot 1 in the Saltfleet Township and eventually sold the property to John Inglehart in 1815. The original documents are signed Johannes Englehart, meaning the family anglicized their name after immigrating from Pennsylvania. John with his wife Magdalene and their children lived on the land as tenants from 1808 until they purchased the property in 1815. Once John Inglehart died in 1835, the land was passed on to his son Jacob.

Jacob Inglehart and his wife Jane had six children; two boys and four girls. His will and testament made it apparent that family was extremely important to Jacob. For example, land was bequeathed to both his sons and each daughter received money and comfortable sleeping essentials (bedstead, bed and bedding). As well, Jacob gifted his wife the use of the house, garden and furniture for as long as she wanted. After his death in 1853, Jacob left the property to his eldest son Hiram Fred Inglehart. Upon this time, the farm was presumed to have been flourishing and very profitable. An 1851 census claims 50 acres had been cleared, 33 acres were planted with mainly wheat crops, but peas, oats, Indian corn and clover were also harvested. Sheep were also tended to and a small orchard of apples produced cider. Hiram ran the farm until suffering a horrible accident in 1870. The incident left him blind and since he and his wife had no children or descendants, Hiram was forced to sell the farm. The property was sold to Henry Magill and evidently ended the Inglehart's association.

Henry Magill farmed the land with his two sons for a short time before selling the land in March of 1890 to Jonathon Carpenter. It was Priscilla, Jonathon's wife who named the house Ingledale in honor of the family who built it; the Inglehart's. Jonathon was from the Carpenter family who immigrated from Hopewell, New Jersey as United Empire Loyalists. Across Southern Ontario Ingledale became very well known for Jonathon's fine driving horses and Priscilla's revolutionary business of raising a herd of purebred Jersey cows. The couple were both extremely forward thinking for their time, especially in regards to responsibilities and stereotypes of women. Jonathon proved this by transferring the ownership of the land to his wife.



Figure 4. 1975 Existing Vegetation



At the beginning of the new century, the Carpenters recognized the societal advancements and drastic changes in local farming. With the help of his two sons Victor and Gordon, Jonathon moved away from horse breeding and focused more on agriculture. Ripping up the old apple orchard, the family planted rows of pears, peaches, plums, cherries and grapes. Rows of fruit covered the property and ran from Baseline Road to the very edge of Lake Ontario. Fruit and produce became the main source of income for the Carpenter family.

After Victor suffered a fatal injury while loading the produce at the rail yard in Winona, Priscilla sold Ingledale to her only remaining son Gordon for \$1.00. Priscilla lived out the rest of her life at Ingledale with Gordon and his family, which consisted of five children.

Gordon died intestate and the property went through Eric Carpenter, his son and executor, to

the four surviving Carpenter children. Walter, Gordon's eldest son and predecessor passed away prior from a heart attack while working on the farm. Eric and his family built a house on Baseline Road just outside the entrance to Ingledale's driveway in the late 1940's. Descendants from Eric's family still live just outside the gates of Fifty Point in the house west of the main park entrance on Baseline Road.

Ingledale continued in the Carpenter family until 1969, when the four children agreed to sell the property to a local group of speculators who envisioned large estates scattered across the lot. Eric's sister, Nora Carpenter remained on the property and lived in the Ingledale home. Soil excavations were taken for the construction of the Queen Elizabeth Way and this is how Fifty Point's Pond came to be. However, Nora would not allow anyone to excavate any further unless they left the house intact. This act of defiance led to the purchase of the property in 1971 by the HCA through funding arrangements with the Province of Ontario. Nora Carpenter lived at Ingledale until 1976. While she resided in the house the HCA consulted with Nora for many restoration projects.

4.7 Heritage Designation and Historic Buildings

The Ontario Heritage Act enables municipalities to protect and manage Ontario's cultural heritage resources. Part IV of the Act provides for municipal designation of individual properties as having cultural heritage value. Properties are designated by a municipal by-law, with reasons for designation or a description of heritage attributes which must be retained to conserve the cultural heritage value. Heritage property designation serves to: recognize the importance of a property to the community; identify and protect the property's cultural heritage value; encourage good stewardship and conservation; and promote knowledge and understanding about the property and the development of the community.

Fifty Point contains one building with heritage designation from the City of Hamilton – The Ingledale House.

The Ingledale House achieved heritage designation for both its historical and architectural importance. The home was built circa 1815 by John Inglehart and his wife Magdalene. The couple had originally immigrated with their young family from Pennsylvania to Canada around 1797 in support of the British during the American War of Independence. The architectural design of the home demonstrates Loyalist-inspired characteristics of the early 19th century with Georgian concepts of beauty and propriety. During each construction phase, these timeless styles were maintained and extended to both the exterior and interior spaces of the home.



The original homestead was built in late 1815 and the initial foundation is currently identified as the kitchen or north side of the Ingledale House. After John Inglehart's death in 1835, the property was passed on to his son Jacob and he constructed a south addition to create the house we know now as Ingledale. During this phase close to half of the original home was demolished. Jacob and his wife retained what was left as a kitchen. The next alteration to the Ingledale House occurred

when Henry Magill sold the property to Jonathon Carpenter in 1890, who tore down the east wing to accommodate space for farm buildings to raise Jersey cows and horses.



Notable exterior features of the Ingledale House include historic elements of the facades of the original homestead, as well as the south addition. Original features such as windows, shutters, doorways, roofing, chimneys and masonry foundation walls demonstrate fine Loyalist architecture characteristic of the first half of the 19th century. The home embodies both Georgian concepts of beauty and propriety and Neo-Classic architectural details.

This master plan sets out a cultural heritage zone surrounding the Ingledale House, with the intent to provide a setting that respects the heritage designation and value of this building to the community. The surrounding outbuildings and landscape features within this zone, while not designated historic, shall be compatible to the historic building. Further detailed evaluation of the home and site is recommended, and to develop a specific HCA management plan for the continued care and operation of this feature within Fifty Point.

4.8 Natural Areas

Fifty Point's natural areas include an Environmentally Significant Area (ESA), wetlands and Significant Woodland, forest management area, and fish habitat. Fifty Point contains a mix of vegetation including wetland, forests, plantations, former agricultural fields that are naturalizing, meadows, shoreline and beach areas. The fishing pond is man-made and a central feature in the conservation area.

All future development from this Master Plan is to follow the Master Plan zone guidelines outlined in Section 3.6, and the natural areas recommendations noted in Section 5.

5.0 NATURAL AREAS INVENTORY

5.1 Physiography and Topography

This study area is located in the St Lawrence Lowlands physiographic region. Bedrock in the area is Queenston shale of the Ordovician period, with glacial deposits of Lake Iroquois sandy and silty loam.

The natural topography of this region between the Lake Ontario shoreline and the Niagara Escarpment is uniformly flat terrain, drained by a number of small and shallow but steep sided creeks which flow from the escarpment to the lake. There is some variation in the soil composition within this area, the soils are of either a clay or sandy/silty nature. The combination of soils and favourable microclimate between the lake and escarpment has made this the principal tender fruit growing area of Canada.

The natural topography of Fifty Point is very flat with fairly impervious soils. Drainage ditches were incorporated into the park development to alleviate extensive wet areas which could occur following substantial rainfall. The flood plain of Fifty Creek was wide at the lakeshore with marsh lands when HCA acquired the property. With the park development and construction of the land spit, Fifty Creek has been channelized, replacing the marsh lands with the beach complex seen today.

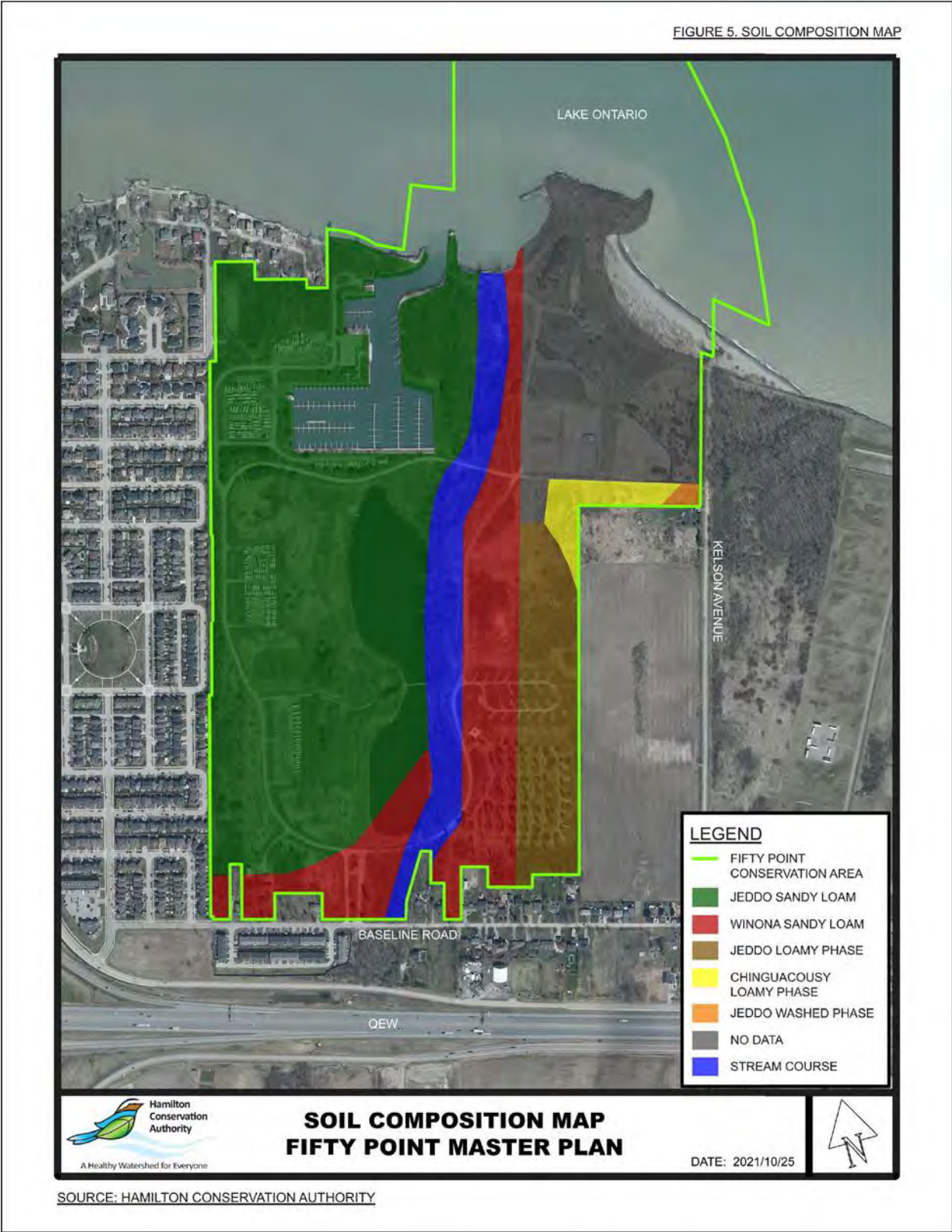
5.2 Soil Composition

The following soil information was recorded in the 1975 Master Plan:

- The surficial soils are predominately of the Jeddo-Winona sandy loam group which is imperfectly drained and deposited over clay till. Recent soil investigations for the wetland project confirmed the presence of silty clay till underneath a thin layer of topsoil in the area north-west of the fishing pond.
- The underlying clay till is mainly Rochester gray clay-shale which is relatively impervious to ground water movement.
- The sandy loams are relatively flat (0.5% to 5% grade) and stone free.

Area well drilling records obtained by HCA in the 1970's indicated the following subsurface soils: 0 - 15ft depth brown clay, 15 to 46ft depth blue clay, 46 to 47ft depth clay sand, water at 46ft depth. It should be noted well data was limited at that time, the area had been serviced with municipal water supply for many years.

Figure 5. Soil Composition



During development of the conservation area, the soils were found to not be ideal for sewage disposal by a normal septic and tile bed system. Consequently, pump out holding tanks were installed for the park washrooms, and connections to municipal sanitary sewers were installed for the marina operation with the Lake Pointe community development.

5.3 Hydrology and Surface Drainage

Fifty Point is located on the shore of Lake Ontario and contains sections of 3 Stoney Creek Numbered Watercourses WC11, Fifty Creek/WC12, and WC13. Connected to Fifty Creek is a 4-hectare pond located roughly in the middle of the conservation area. See Watersheds and Study Area Figure 2, (page 28).

.1 Lake Ontario

Lake Ontario is the smallest of the 5 Laurentian Great Lakes and is the last one in the chain that drains to the Atlantic Ocean through the St. Lawrence River. The Lake is one of two in this chain which has a water control structure for hydro production and shipping at the outlet, Lake Superior being the other. This means that the water level within the Lake can be artificially manipulated but this is governed by an international agreement through orders from the International Joint Commission and managed by the International Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River Board. The lake level naturally varies throughout the year based on the volume of its inputs but generally peaks in the early summer and is lowest in the late winter prior to the snow melt.

The construction of the marina at Fifty Point permanently altered the lake shoreline by digging out the marina inlet and creating the point with the fill. Prior to this the shoreline would have been a beach sloping from the northwest to south east. The created inlet is subject to silting from wave action, and every 3 to 5 years dredging is necessary for the marina operation.



The current shoreline is broken into various segments in the conservation area. The section of shore west of the marina entrance is about 155m long. It is hardened and is made up with 4 groynes of various lengths jutting out into the lake and the placement of large rocks and boulders along the shore in-between. The largest section of shore approx. 1300m is the marina itself with a composition of mostly sheet pile walls and some small sections made up of large armour stone. The next section to the east of the Marina entrance forms a crescent shaped bay in-between two large groynes. It is about 250m

long. There is a small section of sand beach associated with the outlet for Fifty Creek while the rest is armoured. The armouring was recently updated following damage from recent high-water levels on the lake. Further shoreline restoration is being planned to revegetate areas and relocate some of the trail further away from the top of slope. The next section of shore is about 275m long and forms the outer edge of the artificial point and is entirely armoured with very large boulders to resist the heavy erosion forces found along this section. The final section is made up of a sand beach that has formed in the shadow of the point. The section within Fifty Point is about 250m long with the rest extending onto the neighbouring federal lands.



WC 13 outlets near the divide between HCA and the Federal property. Due to the nature of this watercourse and its interaction with the beach its location moves about. The small barrier beach wetland feature is contained on our property in the NW corner behind the beach. The future management of Fifty Point's beach and associated natural areas will prioritize conserving and restoring the natural features of this area while providing appropriate day use areas. Defined pedestrian access and walkways to the beach (formalized trails or boardwalks for example) through the natural areas are one method of management.

.2 WC11

Watercourse 11 is an intermittent creek and is almost entirely contained within Fifty Point. It drains the western side of Fifty Point beginning in the SW corner flowing along the internal Fifty Point road north between the road and the neighbourhood to the west. In the area of the marina the creek flows through the center of the western woodlot diagonally exiting into private property where it is confined to a concrete channel for its final 88m journey to Lake Ontario. An environmental assessment was conducted on this watercourse in 2018 the results of which recommended diverting the upper 2/3rds to the pond (Fifty Creek/WC12) through a created wetland to help alleviate some flooding of the private properties. The restoration designs for the watercourse diversion and wetland creation were undertaken in 2021 with construction proposed later in 2022.

.3 Fifty Creek/WC12

Fifty Creek is the largest of the 3 watercourses in the Conservation Area. It originates on top of the Niagara Escarpment from many tributaries that flow through an agricultural landscape and come together in the area of Hwy 8 to form the main channel of the creek.

The creek flows north through some additional rural lands but once it crosses the Railway tracks it enters future development lands. It then crosses the QEW and then Baseline Road before entering Fifty Point Conservation Area. Within Fifty Point, the creek flows through the woodlot next to the entrance gate along the property line with 1497 Baseline Rd. It flows under the internal loop road of the CA through 4 Corrugated Steel Pipe culverts.

From there it flows through the wooded area along the Eastern side of the pond. It crosses a second internal road through 2 CSP culverts and continues north in the woodlot to the lake with a final culvert before entering the beach and lake. The creek is intermittent though it is close to perennial in nature given it can flow for most of the year. Within Fifty Point it receives flows from the pond and a series of landscape drainage features from the north east area of Fifty Point. There is also a small borrow pit pond/wetland associated with these landscape drainages as well. Within the conservation area, beaver activity is very prevalent and several beaver dams are located along the creek.



Most are found within the section that runs parallel to the pond. These dams have converted some of the floodplain to more of a swamp like area enhancing its ecological diversity. Monitoring of beaver activity per the HCA Wildlife Management Strategy and this master plan is required by the HCA to evaluate their direct and indirect impacts to the ecosystem and Fifty Point's infrastructure (roads, bridges, planted trees etc.). See Section 7.3 Fish and Wildlife Management for more information.

.4 WC13

Watercourse 13 starts south of the QEW and flows almost entirely along Kelson Ave. It only enters the Fifty Point for short stints in the north east corner in the area of the beach. The watercourse is a deeply excavated artificial channel cut into the Clay till soils. In the area of Fifty Point it is approximately 2m deep at the upstream end and as much as 3+m deep as it runs towards the lake. Around the end of the Kelson Road right-of-way the soils transition from the till to sand. At this point a small barrier wetland is formed from the sand dunes created by wave action. The creek cuts a temporary channel to the lake when it has enough flow and then will become cut off when the wave action of the lake deposits more sand than the creek can transport. The nature of this means the outlet to the lake through the beach will move about each time it cuts a new path through the sand.

.5 Fifty Point Pond

The Fifty Point pond is artificial in origin as it is an abandoned borrow pit from the construction of the QEW. It is 4 hectares in size oriented in a north south direction and split into two lobes. The northern lobe is mostly between 5-6m deep while the southern lobe is mostly 7-8m deep with both lobes having deeper holes, the maximum depth being up to 11.2m deep. The shallow habitat associated with shore is very narrow and only really follows the outer parameter of the pond. Figure 8 is the map produced by NRSI in the report showing the pond contours and noted habitat features. The pond substrate was found to be mostly sand and silt with some noted larger substrates in the middle associated with the bridge area. Figure 6 is a single transect across the northern portion of the pond that shows the depth profile. This also through the water column clearly shows the bowl-shaped nature of the pond. The pond was historically isolated from Fifty Creek. Over time the culvert and berm that separated the creek from the pond failed and the creek and pond became connected features. The HCA became aware of this issue within recent years. As such, a permit to stock the pond could not be obtained and the HCA ceased stocking the pond. This connection is interesting as the flow can move in both directions into the pond from Fifty Creek and from the pond to the creek depending on the time or year and conditions. The pond also receives flows from park drainage ditches, and in the future it will have flows from WC11 added through a new wetland feature being added concurrently with this Master Plan process. See Figure 7 of the new wetland feature map.

Figure 6. Fishing Pond Transect

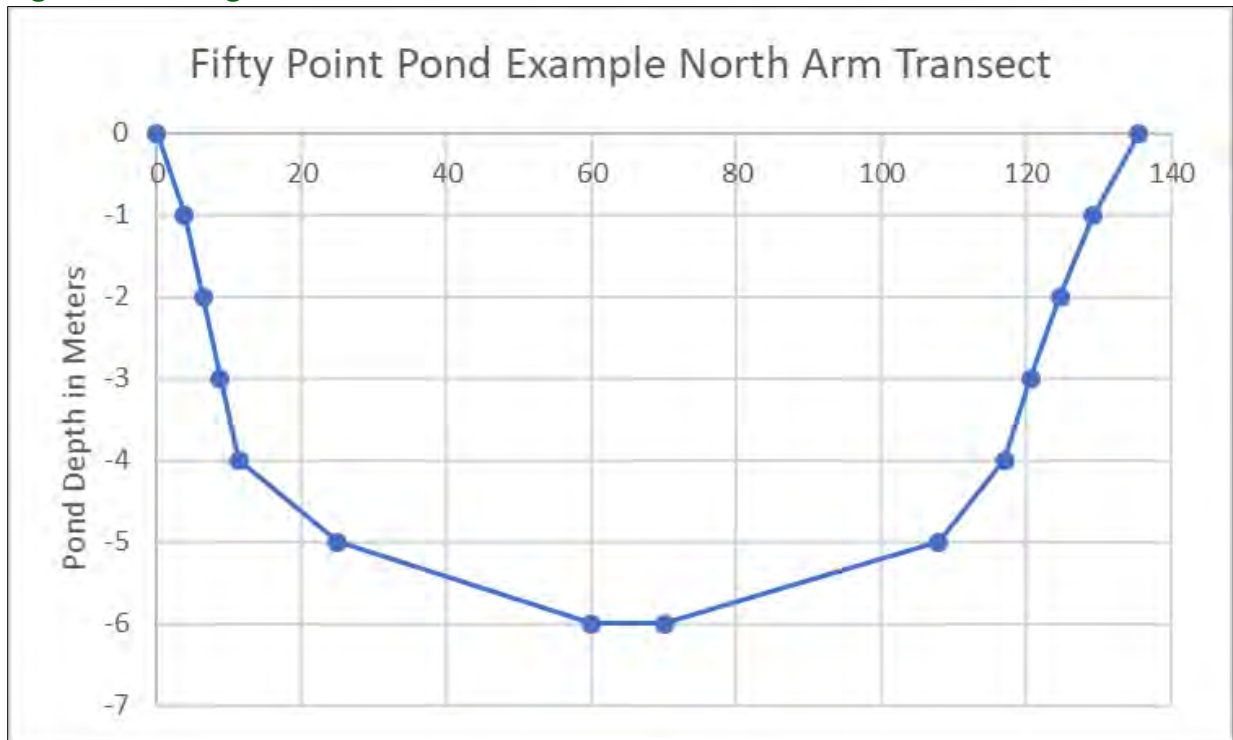


Figure 7. New Wetland Feature

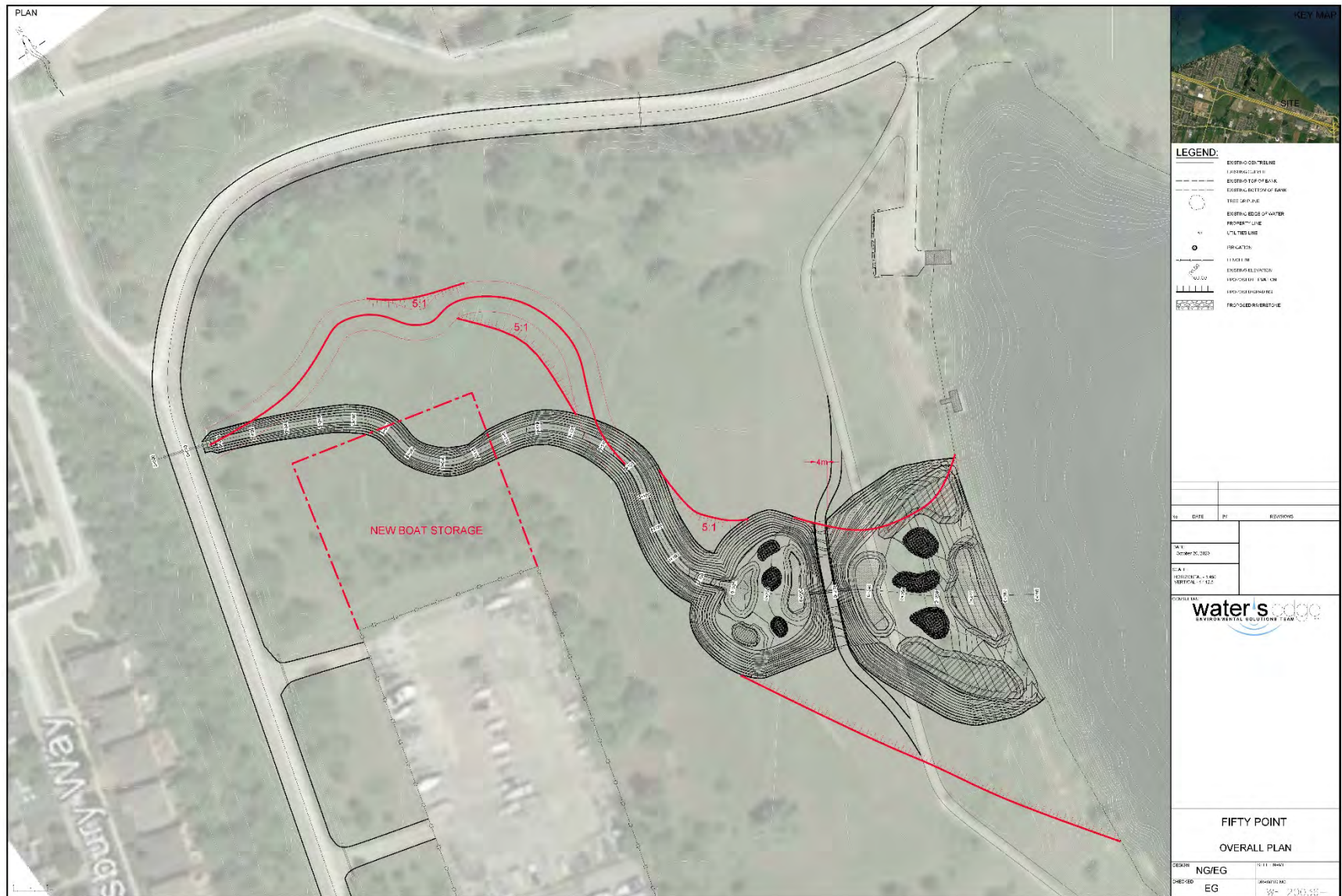


Figure 8. Fishing Pond Map (courtesy NSRI consultants)



.6 Borrow Pit/ Wetland

This small pond on the eastern side of the property near the Kelson Rd. access is an abandoned borrow pit from past excavations. The pond is connected to two drainage swales that drain the field area north of Kelson Rd. This system is isolated from both WC13 and Fifty Creek by earthen fill at the ends of the channels. This gives it a bit of a wetland like appearance in spots. It is most likely to drain via overland flow into WC13 based on site observation but there is also the potential for overland drainage to Fifty Creek from the north western swale across Beach Access 3.

5.4 Biophysical Inventory Methodology

Biophysical inventories completed at Fifty Point Conservation area were mainly restricted to flora and Ecological Land Classification in 2020. Breeding and migratory birds, frog call as well as further incidental surveys were completed in 2021. Surveys completed in 2020 and 2021 are noted in Table 7. Ecological Land Classification was completed across the entire property and is shown on Map 3 in *Appendix 1*. Species lists are included in *Appendix 7*.

Table 7. Summary of Ecological Field Studies at Fifty Point

Survey Type	Dates	
	Year	Day(s)
Floral Inventory	2020, 2021	September 9, 2020, May 6 2021 and concurrent with ELC surveys
Breeding Bird Surveys	2021	June 2 and July 7 2021
Migratory Bird Surveys	2021	April 14, 16, 20, 22, 27, 29, and May 4, 6, 11, 14, 18 and 20 2021
Frog Call Surveys	2021	April and May 2021
Ecological Land Classification (ELC)	2020	July 6, 7, 9, 27, 30, August 6, 11, 12, 14, September 9,
Backpack Electrofishing of Fifty Creek	2021 2020 2019 2018 2016 2015 2014 2013 2012	July 21 August 7 July 26 August 1 August 2 August 6 July 15 July 12 July 5
Raft Electrofishing of Pond	2019	August 8-9
Short Set Gill Netting of Pond	2019	August 8-9
Incidental Wildlife	Recorded when encountered during all visits – 2020 and 2021	

5.5 Ecological Land Classification

The Ecological Land Classification (ELC) system for Ontario was used to describe the vegetation communities at Fifty Point. Staff conducted multi-season inventories of the property in 2020. Details on the canopy, sub canopy, shrub and ground layers of each vegetation community were recorded. Vegetation community boundaries were determined using air photo analysis and further refined in the field.

5.6 Flora/ Botanical Inventory

Botanical inventories were conducted as a part of the Ecological Land Classification surveys of the property. Specific floristic inventories occurred in the fall of 2020 to further identify asters and goldenrod species as they bloom late in the season. An additional survey in the spring of 2021 was conducted to survey for spring ephemerals (early spring flowers). Species in this group die back by mid-summer and therefore are missed when spring surveys are not conducted. Species nomenclature is based on the Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC) Plant Species list (updated yearly). Species and community ranks are determined provincially by the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry Natural Heritage Information Centre Database (Srank) and locally via the Hamilton Natural Areas Inventory (Schwetz 2014).



5.7 Fauna Inventory

No specific surveys were conducted for wildlife on the property. All wildlife encounters were incidental while conducting other aspects of field work. These surveys involved general coverage recording all species observations and signs (e.g. tracks/trails, scat, and burrows, dens, browse and vocalizations). Background data including older survey material was used to develop a list of butterflies, mammals and dragonflies that have been recorded by naturalists at Fifty Point Conservation Area over the last 10 years. A summary of the findings is in *Appendix 7*.

Frog call surveys were conducted in 2021, to supplement records on file. These surveys followed the Marsh Monitoring Program protocol. This includes three nights of surveys from April to June when temperatures at night are 5, 10 and 15 degrees respectively.

5.8 Breeding Bird Survey

Migratory bird surveys were conducted over 12 (April – May) visits in order to record species that migrate through this Conservation Area throughout the spring using the methods outlined in the Significant Wildlife Habitat Technical Guide (MNR 2012). Breeding bird surveys were conducted on June 2nd and July 7th 2021 and followed the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas (Cadman 2010) methodology.

5.9 Ecological Land Classification Results

Field surveys occurred on July 6, 7, 9, 27, 30, August 6, 11, 12, 14 and September 9. The subject property was delineated into 14 vegetation communities (Map 1). Details on community classifications can be found in *Appendix 1* and on Map 1 and Table 8.

Table 8. Vegetation Communities

Community Type	ELC Code	Community Description
Aquatic	OAQ	Open Aquatic
Cultural	Anthropogenic	Anthropogenic
Deciduous Forest	FODM2-2	Dry-Fresh Oak-Hickory Deciduous Forest
	FODM7-3	Fresh-Moist Willow-Lowland Deciduous Forest
	FODM5-3	Dry-Fresh Sugar Maple-Oak Deciduous Forest
	FODM4	Dry-Fresh Upland Deciduous Forest
Meadow	MEGM3-4	Kentucky Bluegrass Graminoid Meadow
	MEMM4	Fresh Moist Mixed Meadow
	MEM	Mixed Meadow
Thicket	SWTM2-1	Red-Osier Dogwood Mineral Deciduous Thicket Swamp
	THDM5-1	Grey Dogwood Deciduous Shrub Thicket
	THDM2-1	Sumac Deciduous Shrub Thicket
Shoreline	SHTM1-1	Cottonwood Mineral Treed Shoreline
Plantation	TAGM1	Coniferous Plantation
Savanna	SVCM1-2	White Pine Coniferous Savanna
Woodland	WOMM3	Dry Fresh Mixed Woodland

.1 Aquatic

Open Aquatic (OAQ)

The open aquatic area on the property is a pond that was constructed during the building of the QEW, see Section 5.3.5. It offers opportunities for recreational fishing and radio control model boat racing, and ice skating in the winter if there is sufficient ice cover. The shoreline is mostly mown grass with patches of cattails.

.2 Cultural – Anthropogenic

Anthropogenic (A)

This area includes the Ingledale house and associated buildings located near the center of the property on the West side of the pond, open parkland extends from the house along the pond to the Marina. The park office and restaurant are located in the North West corner of the property beside the marina. There are four lots along the western side of the property that are used for boat storage and one lot on the north east side that is a

parking lot and former ball hockey arena converted to additional beach parking. The rest of the open parkland area is dispersed throughout the eastern portion from the Kelson Road service lane north to the beach and the south east corner of the property. South of the Kelson Road Service lane are open space picnic sites near the campground, pavilion and open picnic areas, trailer and vehicle parking lots, and roads for access by visitors. These areas are mown grass, with some areas near the pond edge and drainage watercourses left as unmown meadow.

.3 Deciduous Forest

FODM2-2 Dry-Fresh Oak-Hickory Deciduous Forest

This community occurs near the shore of Lake Ontario on either side of the marina. The canopy is dominated by Shagbark hickory and Red oak. Green ash is occasional in the canopy but due to EAB it is now leaving large gaps as more trees die off. The Eastern polygon is more abundant in gray dogwood and jewelweed compared to the Western polygon which has more Green ash regrowth, Poison ivy and Wild geranium. Both have an abundance of Goldenrod and Enchanter's nightshade in the ground layer.

FODM7-3 Fresh-Moist Willow-Lowland Deciduous Forest

A long, narrow lowland forest in the Fifty Creek corridor. Black Willow is abundant in the canopy with components of Silver maple and Black walnut. Green ash and Red osier dogwood are occasional in the understory with Common buckthorn. There was a high diversity of groundcover with Spotted jewelweed, biden's species and Panicked aster being the most abundant. The corridor starts very narrow and gradually widens, the wider area has more aquatic plants including Broad-leaved arrowhead, Water plantain and Broad-fruited burreed. There is also a large invasive sedge species in this area. A small drain flows into Fifty Creek from the trailer camping area, near the culvert there is a patch of the invasive phragmites and some cattails.

FODM5-3 Dry-Fresh Sugar Maple-Oak Deciduous Forest

This is a small community dominated by Sugar maple and Red oak. Grey dogwood and False Solomon's seal were occasional in the understory and ground layer respectively. An English walnut was found here as well, most likely planted due to its proximity to the gate house.

FODM4 Dry-Fresh Upland Deciduous Forest

This community is a mix of Red and Bur oak, Honey locust, Black walnut and Cottonwood with Sweet cherry, White pine and a Tulip tree, none were dominant. Sumac was abundant in the understory with sedges, Garlic mustard and Burdock being abundant on the ground. This area is adjacent to the creek corridor and was most likely planted and managed in the past.

.4 Meadow

MEGM3-4 Kentucky Bluegrass Graminoid Meadow

There are two areas with this type of community. Area A is on the east side of the property near the former ball hockey arena, area B is on the west side near the boat

storage areas. Both are dominated by Kentucky bluegrass with Canada thistle, Common milkweed, Canada goldenrod and vetch species. These areas were mown historically and have been left to grow for several years. Area B has less Canada thistle and more Common milkweed than Area A, it also has more planted shade trees such as Silver maple, White pine and Sunburst honey locust. There is an inclusion next to Area A that is a Forb Mineral Shallow Marsh (MASM2). This community surrounds a small pond and creek corridor with Honey locust, Small green ash, biden's species, Purple-leaved willow herb, rushes and grasses. There are a few cattails and an abundance of mint species.

MEMM4 Fresh Moist Mixed Meadow

This community is a mixture of grass and forb species and is seasonally wet. Canada goldenrod, Canada thistle and Purple-leaved willow herb are occasional as well as planted pear tree species. These pear trees may be part of the original farm. In wetter areas Blue vervain, Bittersweet nightshade, Slender amaranth, Curled dock and Path rush can be found. Trees were planted along the edge on either side of the road in 2019 as part of a restoration project. Some of the species include Red oak, Tamarack, Black walnut, cedar and Black cherry.

MEM Mixed Meadow

This is an undulating community, possibly an old vineyard with wet and dry alternating with the rows. In the historic air photos, the cultivated rows from former vineyard and orchard production are visible. Canada goldenrod and grass species dominant with Red osier dogwood and sumac in clumps throughout. There is some Green ash, Black walnut, Silver maple and a Swamp white oak on the edge of the property. In the wetter areas there is Purple loosestrife, cattails, *Juncas effuses*, *Juncas tenuis*, 3 species of sedge and one small patch of invasive phragmites. A grape species, potentially left from the vineyard was occasional throughout.

.5 Thicket

SWTM2-1 Red-Osier Dogwood Mineral Deciduous Thicket Swamp

This area is temporarily flooded in the spring each year. Red-osier dogwood and Green ash are abundant in the understory and sub-canopy layers respectively. EAB has reduced the green ash in the canopy leaving Black willow occasional. The ground layer was diverse, Poison ivy, goldenrod species, Water pennywort and Rough bedstraw were occasional with two species each of rush and sedge.

THDM5-1 Grey Dogwood Deciduous Shrub Thicket

This community is adjacent to the old vineyard and has some of the same undulation seen in the MEM community. Gray dogwood is abundant throughout with sparse Green ash and White elm. Buckthorn was occasional and large in spots. Ground cover was mostly Canada goldenrod with occasional Poison ivy, grape species, Virginia creeper, Grass-leaved goldenrod and Green ash. There is a patch of invasive phragmites growing in the swale near the trailer camping area.

THDM2-1 Sumac Deciduous Shrub Thicket

This community is dominated by Staghorn sumac. Grass species and Canada goldenrod are abundant under the sumac and in more open areas. There is a mown

path that goes through part of the polygon and separates a monoculture of teasel from the sumac. Along the shoreline there are a few willows, Silver maple and Honey locust.

.6 Shoreline

SHTM1-1 Cottonwood Mineral Treed Shoreline

The shoreline is dominated by both Cottonwood and Black locust in all stages of growth. Red oak was planted

under the canopy near the center of the shoreline as part of an historical restoration project. False indigo and willow species can be found in the understory. The western side is abundant in goldenrod and gradually transitions to American beach grass on the eastern side. Several invasive species can be found under the canopy such as

Knapweed, White sweet clover, buckthorn, Honeysuckle, Garlic mustard, Common mullein and Black locust.

There is an inclusion on the east end, of a small pond where a creek pools before reaching the lake. It is ringed by willows, cattails, hedge bindweed, Purple loosestrife, Spreading dogbane and the invasive flowering rush. Duckweed is abundant on the water and water plantain is present.



.7 Plantation

TAGM1 Coniferous Plantation

This is a small area of planted white pine. Red oak, Staghorn sumac and gray dogwood are growing on the edge of the plantation with grass and garlic mustard in the ground layer.

.8 Savanna

SVCM1-2 White Pine Coniferous Savanna

This community is a mix of tree plantings and grass that was historically mown. White pine, Honey locust, Green ash and Black walnut make up the canopy. There are clumps of Gray dogwood near the creek and Staghorn sumac near the paved path. Field bindweed and grass species are dominant in the ground layer. Garlic mustard and Cow vetch are starting to spread, however Common milkweed and Wild bergamot are still occasional.

.9 Woodland

WOMM3 Dry Fresh Mixed Woodland

This area was once cultivated and now is a mix of natural regeneration and plantings. Silver maple and Pin oak are plantings, the Green ash and cottonwoods/Trembling aspens and White pine are natural. Gray dogwood and Black walnut are occasional in the understory with Poison ivy, grass species and goldenrod species abundant in the ground layer.

5.10 Flora/Botanical Inventory Results

Over the course of multiple survey dates including ELC surveys, staff identified 201 species of plants. Of these, 125 are considered native plant species (52%) while 76 are non-native species (31%) and there were an additional 41 species identified to genus only. The Hamilton Natural Areas Inventory (NAI), (HCA 2014) indicates that there are 1496 species of plants in the Hamilton-Wentworth jurisdiction. Plant species at Fifty Point Conservation Area represent 13% of that regional flora.

The Floristic Quality Index (FQI) and the Native Mean Coefficient of Conservatism (CC) have been calculated for the entire property. The CC is a measure of the species specificity of habitat requirements, with a coefficient of 0 indicating a plant tolerant of a wide range of conditions and 10 indicating a plant that has the most specific habitat requirements. FQI is a measure of vegetation quality and is based on both the habitat fidelity of each species and species richness. The FQI for Fifty Point Conservation Area is 21.70 and the mean CC value is 1.94. These are considered very low values for FQI and mean CC. This is likely reflective of the urban nature of this Conservation Area and the limited natural habitat.

5.11 Fauna Inventory Results

.1 Breeding Birds and Winter Birds

Breeding bird surveys were conducted at Fifty Point in the spring of 2021. For a small Conservation Area there is a wide variety of habitat. Some notable breeding species for this area include Green Heron, Kingfisher, Wood Duck, Mallards, Northern Flicker, many American Robins and a Blue-Grey Gnatcatcher nest. There was also one pair of Great Horned Owls seen on almost every survey, no nest was found, but the pair were almost always together. Data was collected from ebird and iNaturalist from the past five years in



order to compile species list of birds that have been seen at Fifty Point in the breeding season.

Background research and HCA surveys recorded 69 bird species that are possibly breeding in the Conservation Area. The species list is available in *Appendix 7*. There are also a few species that have been recorded at Fifty Point in the winter. These include Northern Long-eared Owl, Northern Saw-Whet Owl, Snowy Owl and Great Horned Owl. There are also many waterfowl that congregate in Lake Ontario just off the shore, the species found and the importance of this area is described in the section above about the Important Bird Area (IBA) along the western end of Lake Ontario.

.2 Migratory Birds

Migratory bird surveys were conducted over twelve visits in April and May 2021. A total of 105 migratory bird species were recorded over the course of these surveys. An additional 12 birds were added to this list after reviewing the last 5 years of data on eBird. A small number of these birds stay and breed at Fifty Point; the remainder move along to habitats further north. It is anticipated that this number of migrating species is low as 2021 was an unusual migratory year with cool north winds for a few weeks during what would be the peak of migration in May. For comparison in 2015, (the last date information was available) Tommy Thompson Park also on Lake Ontario recorded 175 migrating bird species over 58 days while Long Point on Lake Erie in 2019 recorded 245 migratory species over 74 days. Table 9 contains the results of staff surveys from Fifty Point for migratory birds.

Table 9. Migratory Bird Survey Results, 2021

Date	# of Migratory birds	# of species of migratory birds
April 14	333	31
April 16	307	28
April 20	304	30
April 22	286	33
April 27	411	39
April 29	378	40
May 4	435	48
May 6	496	48
May 11	397	42
May 14	400	53
May 18	425	50
May 20	388	47

.2 Butterflies and Dragonflies

Data was also collected from past Lepidoptera and Odonata surveys completed at Fifty Point. During these surveys, 20 butterfly were recorded on site. An additional 22 species were recorded in the area by the Ontario Butterfly and Moths Atlas'. The only provincially

rare butterfly was the Monarch, while the Gray Comma is considered locally uncommon. In the past, surveys for odonates have identified 22 species in the area. One of these species, the Double-striped Bluet, is considered rare in the province and is ranked S3 with 80 or fewer recorded populations province wide. One of the recorded species is also rare locally and 4 are locally uncommon.

.3 Mammals

All incidental wildlife encounters were recorded while conducting other aspects of field work or from historical surveys conducted for the Natural Areas Inventory. These surveys involved general coverage recording all species observations and signs (e.g. tracks/trails, scat, burrows, dens, browse, and vocalizations). Thirteen mammal species have been recorded for this area. This includes one federal and provincially endangered species, the Northern Long-eared Bat. A family of Beaver have been making a home at Fifty Point for over 5 years. In that time, they and the Emerald Ash borer have created changes to the Fifty Creek wetland corridor. The die off of ash and the felling of these and other trees by beaver has created more open wet meadow habitat within the corridor. There are 5 dams along the creek corridor and one lodge in the pond. The dams have allowed for the retention of water within Fifty Creek for the majority of the summer, when otherwise this creek would dry out at times in the summer due to its intermittent nature.



.4 Herpetofauna

Incidental observations of herpetofauna include 7 different species. Of these, the Red-eared Slider is invasive and snapping turtles are a species of special concern. Two species of frogs and one species of toad were recorded during MMP point counts and incidental during other survey, Northern Leopard Frog, Grey Tree Frog and American Toad. The toads and tree frogs were heard within the creek corridor and the Northern Leporad frogs in the small pond on the east side of Fifty Point. None of the species heard are provincially or locally rare. Other herpetofauna recorded include Eastern Garter Snake, Red-eared Slider, Painted Turtles, Map turtle and Snapping Turtles.

5.12 Aquatic Inventory

Fifty Point contains 3 distinct fishery types including the pond fishery, the watercourse fishery and the Lake Ontario fishery.

.1 Lake Ontario

The Lake Ontario fishery is the responsibility of the Ontario Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry (NDMNRF) and as such HCA does not sample the lake as part of its Aquatic Resource Monitoring Program. The Lake fishery is broken into two main types nearshore and offshore. Access to the nearshore fishery in the winter months is via ice fishing in the marina. The marina acts as a sheltered bay allowing for ice formation. The nearshore and offshore fisheries are accessible in summer for our boating clients via the Marina.



For the nearshore environment, the NDMNRF has the goal of – “Protect, restore and sustain the diversity of the nearshore fish community, with an emphasis on self-sustaining native fishes such as Walleye, Yellow Perch, Lake Sturgeon, Smallmouth Bass, Largemouth Bass, sunfish, Northern Pike, Muskellunge, Round Whitefish and American Eel” (Stewart et.al., 2013).

For the offshore environment ,the NDMNRF has the goal of – “Maintain the offshore pelagic fish community, that is characterized by a diversity of trout and salmon species including Chinook Salmon, Coho Salmon, Rainbow Trout, Brown Trout, and Atlantic Salmon, in balance with prey fish populations and lower trophic levels” (Stewart et. al., 2013). As well as “Protect and restore the diversity of the offshore benthic fish community composed of a mix of self-sustaining native species including Lake Trout, Burbot, Lake Whitefish, deepwater ciscoes, Slimy Sculpin, and Deepwater Sculpin” (Stewart et. al., 2013).

.2 WC11

This watercourse is highly modified, is small and intermittent, and no fishery exists due to these conditions.

.3 Fifty Creek/WC12

The fishery in Fifty Creek is monitored through the HCA’s Aquatic Resource Monitoring Program. This includes sampling one site annually for both benthic invertebrates and fish. The sampling site is located in the southern end of Fifty Point downstream of Baseline Rd. in the Woodlot beside the entrance. It is a warmwater fishery composed mostly of foraged fish. It does not support a game fish fishery and is too small to support any type of harvest.

Table 10. Summary of Fish and Crayfish Caught in Fifty Creek through ARMP

COMMON_NAME	SCIENTIFIC_NAME
Creek Chub	<i>Semotilus atromaculatus</i>
Fathead Minnow	<i>Pimephales promelas</i>
Green Sunfish	<i>Lepomis cyanellus</i>
White Sucker	<i>Catostomus commersonii</i>
Calico Crayfish	<i>Orconectes immunis</i>
Northern Clearwater Crayfish	<i>Faxonius propinquus</i>

.4 WC13

This watercourse is highly modified, small and intermittent. No permanent fishery likely exists due to these conditions but given its connection to the lake it will probably contain fish when conditions will support it. It does not support a game fish fishery and is too small to support any type of harvest.

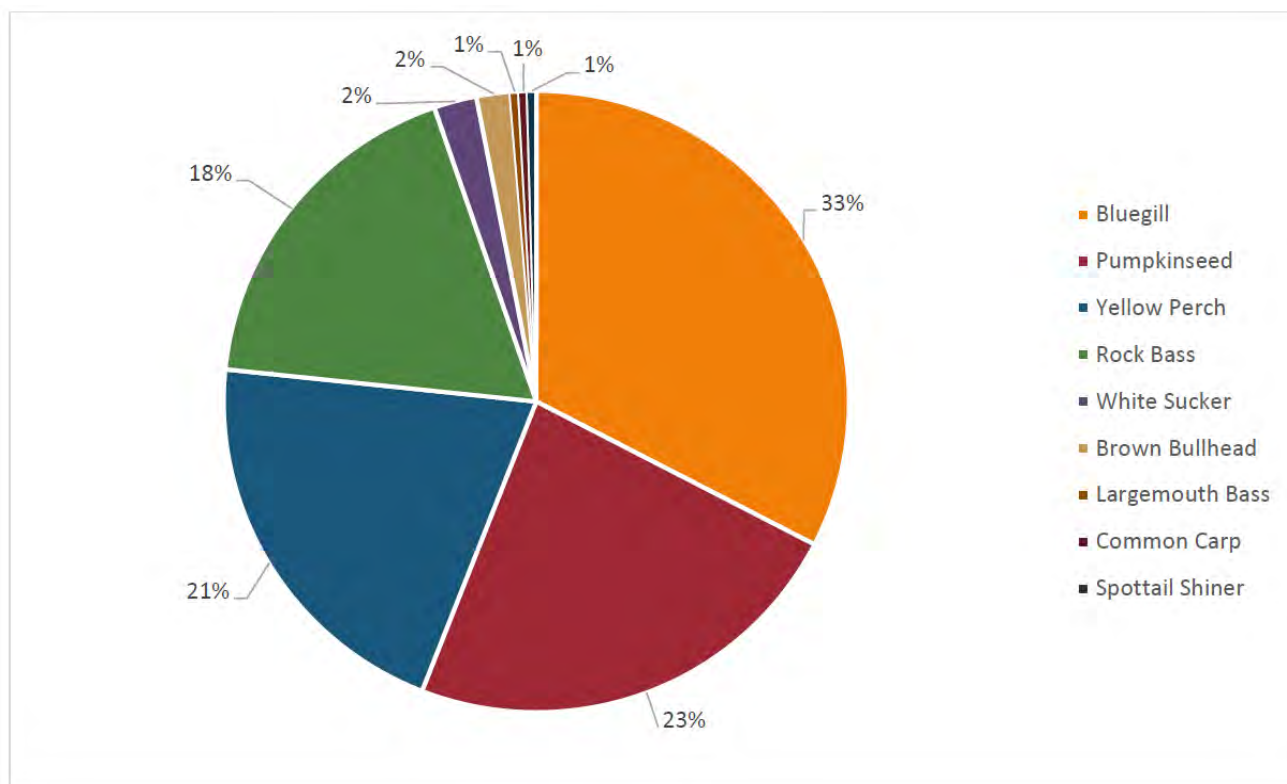
.5 Fifty Point Pond

The pond fishery began as a Put-and-Take Rainbow Trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) Fishery when the pond was isolated from Fifty Creek. In 2018, it was identified that the pond at Fifty Point was connected to Fifty Creek. This necessitated that the Rainbow Trout stocking would no longer be permitted by the MN DMNR. While Fifty Point provides a variety of angling opportunities to conservation area users including in the marina inlet and Lake Ontario the loss of a stocked fishery in the pond was a concern as fishing is popular at Fifty Point and there was interest in continuing to provide fishing opportunities at the pond. HCA staff were given direction to undertake a project feasibility study for the work to transition the Fifty Point Pond to a self-sustaining fishery and then update the board on those findings.

In the summer of 2019, the HCA contracted Natural Resources Solutions Inc. (NRSI) to sample the pond for fish. The fish were sampled using two different techniques. The shoreline habitat was sampled using a raft electrofisher and the deeper waters were sampled with short set gill nets. The sampling captured a total of 227 fish and revealed the pond already contains at least 9 species of fish constituting both a warmwater and coolwater fishery; see Figure 9. The pond does appear to be dominated by 4 species of fish, three of which are considered gamefish and would support the targeted Recreational Fishery.

The pond however currently suffers from a lack of fish habitat features. Only 4 were identified during NRSI's surveys Figure 9, (page 57) Thus, these populations would not likely be able to sustain much fishing pressure. Creating a self-supporting recreational fishery in the pond will necessitate a large habitat enhancement project. One part of this is running concurrently with this Master Plan and the rest will be outlined in the restoration / enhancement opportunities in the Nature Reserve, Natural and Resource Management zones.

Figure 9. Percentage of total catch broken down by species from NRSI report



With the coming pond rehabilitation/enhancement project, a sampling program will need to be developed and added to the Aquatic Resource Monitoring Program. This program should be similar to the reservoirs and include multiple sampling methodologies. The pond also does contain common carp and there may be a need to control them moving forward.

.6 Borrow Pit/ Wetland

This artificial pond and associated landscape drainages are isolated from both WC13 and Fifty Creek and no fishery likely exists due to these conditions.

5.13 Significant Ecological Features

.1 Natural Heritage Designations

.1 Significant woodlands

The creek corridor and woods surrounding the marina and Ingledale House area are considered by the City of Hamilton to be significant woodland. Significant woodlands for the City of Hamilton mean an area which is ecologically important in terms of features (species composition, age of trees and stand history) and function (contributes to the broader landscape because of its location, size or the amount of forest cover in the planning area) (City of Hamilton, 2019).

.2 Environmentally Sensitive Area

The Fifty Creek Valley Environmentally Significant Area is mainly confined to the Fifty

Creek corridor and the western woodlot along Lake Ontario within Fifty Point. The ESA was designated because it meets two of the 2003 ESA criteria including:

1. The area provides habitat for significant species
2. The area provides stopover habitat for migrating birds.

ESA area protected within the rural official plan for the City of Hamilton. No new development is allowed within these features.

.3 West End of Lake Ontario Important Bird Area

This is a globally significant area for congregatory species and waterfowl concentrations. The IBA area is the shoreline of Lake Ontario west of Port Credit around to the Niagara river. Along here the shoreline is relatively protected, erosion rates are low and the prevailing winds are westerly. Since 1990 large congregations of waterfowl (mainly diving ducks) have gathered annually in late winter and early spring with numbers into the tens of thousands. Greater Scaup, White-winged Scoter and Long-tailed Ducks are among the most abundant species. Others include Common Goldeneye, King Eider, Red-breasted Merganser and Surf Scoter. These concentrations are most likely due to the large numbers of Zebra and Quagga mussels that have colonized the shallows.



The shoreline of Fifty Point is part of this IBA. These large concentrations of waterfowl can be seen from shore and bring many birders to the area.

.4 Fifty Mile Creek Non-Provincially Significant Wetland

The Fifty Mile Creek Wetland Complex also occurs along the creek corridor at Fifty Point. This non-provincially significant wetland status was last reviewed in 2004. This wetland evaluation is in the process of being updated by HCA staff and once completed will be reviewed by MNDMNR.

5.14 Biophysical Inventory – Analysis

.1 Species at Risk and Locally Rare Species

.1 Significant Flora

Of the plant species recorded on the subject lands through the 2020 and 2021 field surveys, eight plant species were found to be locally rare and two to be locally uncommon by the City of Hamilton. Giant ragweed, American beachgrass, Low false bindweed, Panicked hawkweed, Great St. john's wort, Tulip tree and Fragrant sumac are all considered locally rare. Necklace sedge is locally uncommon in the area. All but 4 of

these species are considered provincially secure (G5/S5). Great St. John's wort are considered provincially vulnerable (G5/S3) and Panicked hawkweed are considered provincially imperiled (G5/S2). Honey locust is not uncommon or rare locally but is considered possibly imperiled provincially (G5/S2?) when naturally occurring.

.2 Significant Fauna

Eighteen species recorded at Fifty Point Conservation Area, listed in Table 11, are considered species at risk either federally (SARA) or provincially (ESA). These species were recorded at Fifty Pt. at different life stages from migration to breeding as indicated below.

Table 11. Federal and Provincial Species at Risk

Common name	Scientific name	SARA status (Schedule 1)	ESA status	Breeding/ Migratory
Eastern Wood-Pewee	<i>Contopus virens</i>	SC	SC	B
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	THR	THR	B
Canada Warbler	<i>Cardellina canadensis</i>	THR	SC	M
Bobolink	<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>	THR	THR	M
Eastern Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella magna</i>	THR	THR	M
Common Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles minor</i>	THR	SC	M
Bank Swallow	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	THR	THR	M
Chimney Swift	<i>Chaetura pelagica</i>	THR	THR	M
Yellow-breasted Chat	<i>Icteria virens</i>	END	END	M
Eastern Whip-poor-will	<i>Antrostomus vociferus</i>	THR	THR	M
Red-headed Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i>	END	SC	M
Rusty Blackbird	<i>Euphagus carolinus</i>	SC	SC	M
Wood Thrush	<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>	THR	SC	M
Monarch Butterfly	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	SC	SC	B
Snapping Turtle	<i>Chelydra serpentina</i>	SC	SC	B
Midland Painted Turtle	<i>Chrysemys picta marginata</i>	SC	—	B
Northern Map Turtle	<i>Graptemys geographica</i>	SC	SC	B
Northern Long-eared Bat	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	END	END	M

The Barn Swallow and Canada Warbler have been reassessed recently (2020)) and Common Nighthawk (2018) by the federal Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) to Special Concern. Neither status has been changed on Schedule 1 of SARA as of the writing of this Master Plan so they will be treated as SAR in this document.

The Eastern Wood Pewee breed in the larger sections of forest closer to the lake and in the Fifty Creek corridor. Barn Swallows inhabit several different locations of Fifty Point

namely the marina, restaurant decks and pavilions. It is recommended that additional nesting habitat be provided at Fifty Point for this species. Providing Barn Swallow structures may over time encourage this bird species to move away from using the marina restaurant and pavilions as nesting territory. Young fledglings have been noted dead on the concrete floor of the pavilion so helping the birds to breed elsewhere close by would be beneficial to both the species and Fifty Point's visitor services and capital assets.

These species are common at Fifty Point despite being a species at risk. All of the other bird species noted above were recorded on migration either by staff or in eBird by other observers, in a variety of habitats.

Adult Monarchs have been observed throughout the property incidentally. This species is considered a species of "Special Concern" on the Species at Risk in Ontario (SARO) list. This means that the species lives in the wild in Ontario but may become threatened or endangered due to a combination of threats and biological characteristics. In 2016, COSEWIC recommended that this species be up listed to endangered on Schedule 1 of the federal SAR listing. This has not occurred to date.

Snapping turtles, Midland Painted Turtles and one Map turtle have been observed in the creek corridor and in the pond.

The bat species was recorded during the Natural Areas Inventory and staff assume this species likely persists at Fifty Point, however no bat surveys were completed for this Master Plan.

Threatened and endangered species habitat is protected under the Endangered Species Act (provincially) and the Species at Risk Act (federally). Permits may be required for development within the habitat for threatened and endangered species.

2 Significant Wildlife Habitat

The Significant Wildlife Habitat Technical manual (OMNR 2000) along with the Eco regional criteria tables for Ecoregion 7E (OMNR 2015) were used to determine and define significant wildlife habitat (SWH) on the Fifty Point property. SWH includes broad categories of habitats for flora and fauna and has been identified under the provincial policy statement for Ontario. No new development is allowed within identified portions of significant wildlife habitat unless there will be no negative impact to the form and function of this habitat type. The broad categories for significant wildlife habitat include seasonal concentration areas of animals, rare vegetation communities or specialized habitat for wildlife, habitats for species of conservation concern and animal movement corridors. Seasonal concentration areas of animals are areas where wildlife species occur annually in aggregations (groups) at certain times of the year (Ontario 2015). This can include single species concentrations or aggregations of multiple species.

.1 Land bird Migratory Stopover Areas

These are areas with woodlots or forests within 5km of either Lake Ontario or Lake Erie that migratory birds, especially song birds, use as rest stops before or after crossing the great lakes during migration. They are used by migratory land birds as a place to stop, rest and refuel and in particular nearshore coastal habitats are very important. Land



Bird Migration should be studied in woodlots two to five hectares in size where woodlots are rare in the area of shoreline (Ontario 2015). Studies are needed to confirm the use of the habitat by > 200 birds/day and with > 35 species with at least 10 bird species recorded on at least 5 different survey dates (Ontario 2015). As seen in the results sections for migratory birds there was more than one day in which the migratory birds recorded exceeded 35 species and 200 birds. The highest recorded day was May 14 with 53 species and 400 birds. This abundance and diversity of migrant bird species is considered above average and significant. Staff recorded 66% more species than the criteria and 50% more birds overall than the criteria. Fifty point also meets the secondary criteria of at least 10 birds recorded on 5 different survey dates. In summary there were multiple days in which Fifty Point met or exceeded the criteria for Significant Wildlife Habitat under Land Bird Migratory Stopover.

All habitats were surveyed during each visit. All forest, treed and shrub areas were highly used by migratory birds and therefore significant. These areas of Fifty Point are very important for migratory land birds. In a larger landscape context this area combined with the military lands to the east and the Grimsby lagoons are one of the largest intact natural areas remaining along the Canadian south shore of Lake Ontario. As birds move up the lake towards Hamilton there is very little habitat for migration stop overs. Enhancement of Fifty Point to create more habitat for migratory birds to stop and rest in the spring and fall is recommended. Migration occurs in the spring from April – May and then again from late July – October.

.2 Turtle Wintering Areas

The large pond at Fifty Point could be considered SWH as a turtle wintering area. Snapping turtles, Midland Painted Turtles and Map Turtles have been observed around this pond and due to the lack of habitat elsewhere in the area it is likely here these species overwinter. An area is designated SWH if there is the presence of 5 or more overwintering Midland Painted Turtles, one or more Map Turtles or Snapping Turtles. As both Snapping Turtles and Map Turtles have been observed in this pond it should be treated as SWH for overwintering turtles even though man-made ponds are not typically included in this designation.

.3 Special Concern and Rare Wildlife Species

For the special concern species identified at Fifty Point, their habitat is also considered significant wildlife habitat. This includes the habitat for the Eastern Wood Pewee, Double striped Bluet, Monarch Butterfly, Rusty Blackbird, Snapping Turtle, Midland Painted Turtle and Northern Map Turtle. This habitat overlaps with the identification of SWH for migratory birds as this is the majority of natural and naturalized areas at Fifty Point. It also includes the large pond as the habitat of the three turtle species as well as their likely overwintering habitat.



Habitat for species of conservation concern includes wildlife that are listed provincially as species concern or are rare and declining. One provincially rare dragonfly species have been identified, the Double-striped Bluet. As this species was not observed by staff the specific location of breeding and feeding habitat cannot be identified at this time. This species uses small streams and fishless ponds for the majority of their life cycles. Any development around these types of habitat should consider this dragonfly species

.3 Invasive Species at Fifty Point

Invasive species are wide spread throughout Fifty Point. The species detailed below are a threat to the biodiversity and conservation values. The recreational trails at Fifty Point are movement pathways for a number of invasive species. Recommendations for invasive species management, restoration and enhancement opportunities are as follows:

.1 Common buckthorn

Common Buckthorn is a small tree or shrub that was introduced to Ontario from Eurasia. It was widely planted in farm hedgerows and fencerows as a wind break. It can survive in a wide range of conditions making it very good at invading a variety of habitats (Invading Species Center 2019). Birds and small mammals feed on the berries of this plant and have spread it across Fifty Point. This shrub/small tree is growing in all the wooded areas, but is less in the Shagbark hickory-Red oak forests close to the lake. The highest concentration is in areas that have been left to regenerate and near the workshop. An effort will need to be under taken for the reduction in the dominance of this species within the conservation area. The focus should begin on all fruiting female trees. These fruiting females can be treated with herbicides and the remaining smaller stems removed through volunteer events and work days. The larger tree-like shrubs may require the cut-stump method of removal. Replanting may also be required in areas where there is significant ash die off to prevent new invasions by this species.

.2 Phragmites

This species of common reed from Eurasia is a perennial grass. It is not clear how it was transported to North America. It is an aggressive plant that spreads quickly and out competes other native species in wetland habitats (Nichols, 2020). It forms large mono cultures that decrease plant biodiversity and create poor habitat for wildlife.

Ten patches of this species were found. These patches are small and spread around the property in different drains and wet areas. The priority will be to keep these small patches from growing and spreading to the large pond and new wetland creation.

Effective control strategies would likely include drowning of stems when water levels are high (June) or pesticide application in dry periods for these wetland communities (September/October) (Nichols, 2020). Drowning stems involves cutting them in June at the base of the plant, in at least 30 cm of water. This combined with pesticide application on the dry stems should be an effective treatment for this species. This should be a high priority as stands are small in size currently.

.3 Black, Brown and Spotted knapweeds

Knapweeds were introduced to North America over 100 years ago in contaminated agricultural seed and soil in discarded ballast water (Sherman and Powell, 2017). It spreads easily by seed.

Knapweeds were found along the beach. This species reduces habitat for other meadow species as it becomes dominant. This would impair the population of native American beach grass that has been established along the beach.

This species forms a tap root and can be controlled with cultivation to a depth of 18 cm or hand removal. Persistent hand removal (pulling or digging) can control this species if the upper 7.5 cm of the crown portion of the plant are removed before it produces seeds (Sherman and Powell, 2017). A targeted mowing in early August could prevent seed production and keep the knapweed from spreading further. Removal along trails would be a priority to keep the species from spreading further to other meadows at Fifty Point. Finally, knapweed can be shaded out, tree planting in some meadows where this plant is starting to dominate could help reduce its presence.

.4 Garlic mustard

This species was introduced in the 1800's from Europe as an edible herb for early pioneers in the spring. It is a biennial plant that produces seed in its second year. It can grow in a variety of conditions making it a very good invader in a variety of habitats (Anderson, 2012). It easily outcompetes other native ground cover and can change the soil environments to favour its growth over others. There is not a lot of garlic mustard at Fifty Point Conservation Area. Active removal of this species is fairly straight forward with hand picking between April and June, before the plant goes to seed. With a dedicated effort over 5 years, removal of this species can be achieved.

.5 Flowering Rush

Flowering rush is a perennial aquatic species introduced from Eurasia in the late 1800's most likely as an ornamental (Simkovic, 2020). It can grow as an emergent or submergent plant depending on water depth and is a prolific seeder. It can also spread by root when sections are relocated making it difficult to control.

There is only a small population located on the east side of the beach. Mechanical removal is currently the only method of control (Simkovic, 2020).. Stems can be cut below the water surface repeatedly to suppress growth. Plants can also be dug out, but care must be taken to remove all root fragments.

.6 Cut – leaved Teasel

A perennial plant that occurs in a variety of habitats including meadows, waste areas and roadsides. Teasel has high seed production and can spread and take over areas. In its first year it is a large rosette and by its second year can grow up to 2m high, shading out other meadow species (MDA, 2021).

It can be found in most of the meadows at Fifty Point in low numbers, however there is a large monoculture growing on the point. This monoculture does not provide habitat or food for other species. This has had one cut from a mower already in June 2021 Continued yearly mowing of this patch for several years will be required for management. Native plants should then be planted to push out the remaining teasel. The rest of the teasel in the meadows would need to be cut before seeds are produced in late August. Cutting would need to be continued until the seed bank was depleted (MDA, 2021).

.7 Canada Thistle

Another perennial plant of waste places and fields, the Canada thistle has been in North America since the early settlers (MDA, 2021). It is mostly a pest to crops but can invade and take over other nearby meadows. The plant is a prolific seeder producing up 5000 seeds a season, however the seeds don't spread very far. It is through vegetative cloning of the root that allows this plant to spread and push out other species. It is very important to follow clean equipment protocol as even the smallest piece of root can regrow.

The most common control method is tilling prior to flower bud break, to deplete the root reserves (MDA, 2021). Pulling is not as effective as it would have to be done for several years, all root pieces would need to be removed and it would need to be disposed of properly. Herbicide and mowing are other alternative methods of control.

8. Wild Parsnip

This plant was brought to North American by European settlers as a food plant. Since that time, it has escaped cultivation. This species is also a biannual that grows as a rosette in its first year and then flowering in the second year and dying (Ontario, 2021). It spreads quickly and can form dense stands in meadows. Seeds are easily dispersed by mowing. This plant contains a sap that can cause burns to the skin and care must be taken with its removal.

Digging up the tap root is an effective method of control for this species. Follow up monitoring to ensure the entire plant was removed is required. Mowing can also be effective in combination with chemical use. Mowing should occur just after peak

blooming but before seed set in the late summer. Black plastic can also be used to cover the mown plants to kill the remaining plants through solarization (Ontario, 2021).

This species has been found in small scattered populations at Fifty Point. Digging for each stem discovered has occurred.

9. Non-native Reed Canary Grass

The Reed canary grass that has become invasive in Ontario is thought to be a Eurasian cultivar brought to Ontario as forage for cattle, (Anderson 2012). It displaces native wetland plants and can decrease biodiversity. This plant can grow in a range of habitats and spreads quickly in wetlands. It spreads by both seeds and rhizomes. This species can be shaded out through the addition of trees and shrubs to invaded areas. Mulch can also be used to suppress the growth of Reed canary grass. Areas invaded with Reed canary grass in the Fifty Creek corridor should be planted with trees and shrubs. These plantings will need to be monitored a few times during the growing season to remove any grass that grows onto them to prevent smothering. Wood chips could be used in conjunction with planting to suppress the reed canary grass and giving the trees and shrubs space to grow.

An overall invasive species management plan should be developed for Fifty Point. Various methods can be employed to control these species including manual and chemical means to achieve a reduction in invasive species throughout the property.

5.15 Managed Forest

A Managed Forest Plan was completed for HCA properties within the watershed in 2018. This is a 20-year plan that covers 1,018 hectares of HCA owned lands. A restoration plan should be developed to encourage natural regeneration in all forest areas at Fifty Point, and to control invasive species. See *Appendix 6* for more information.

5.16 Natural Areas Recommendations

The natural habitat features at Fifty Point have been evaluated for restoration opportunities and invasive species removals. Restoration in certain areas of Fifty Point can assist with buffering the natural habitats from the impacts of moderate to high levels of visitor use. Priorities for natural areas conservation and restoration in this Master Plan are as follows:

.1 Conservation Targets for Fifty Point Conservation Area (Nature Reserve Zone)

Biodiversity conservation targets are a limited number of species or ecological communities that ecologists select to represent the biodiversity of a protected area, and that therefore serve as the focus for conservation investment. Thus, conservation targets are simply those ecosystems, communities, or species upon which we focus planning and management efforts. Because we use only a handful of targets to plan for biodiversity conservation,

selecting the appropriate suite of targets is crucial to successful conservation planning and adaptive management. A course filter/fine filter approach was used when analyzing and describing conservation targets for Fifty Point. For Fifty Point conserving and enhancing habitat for migratory birds was chosen as a conservation target, due to the significance of the location on the Lake Ontario migratory routes. Addressing this conservation target will benefit many other species that utilize Fifty Point. This target was also used in the next section to prescribe appropriate restoration and enhancement opportunities for Fifty Point.



.2 Restoration/enhancement Opportunities in the Nature Reserve, Natural and Resource Management zones

The existing natural habitat features at Fifty Point have been evaluated for restoration opportunities. Restoration in certain parts of this property can assist with enhancing habitat for migratory song birds and other species that utilize this conservation area. This will need to be balanced with the high level of visitor use at this conservation area.

Priorities for natural areas restoration are as follows:

.1 Migratory birds and butterflies

The overall goal is to enhance migratory bird habitat at Fifty Point to support both spring and fall migrations. All planting projects for Fifty Point shall consider migratory birds. The Audubon Society (Audubon 2021) provides a general list of plant species for different types of migratory birds which has been summarized in Tables 12 and 13.

Table 12. Plants recommended to enhance migratory bird habitat in the spring

Insect eaters	Nectar and sap drinkers	Ground birds	Birds that eat buds
Oaks – Bur and swamp white	Choke and black cherry	Dead leaves left in place	Elm species
Hawthorns	Hawthorns		Ironwood
Hickories	Sugar maple		
Hackberry	Birch		
	Wild columbine		
	Woodland phlox		
	Beardstongue		

Table 13. Plants recommended to enhance migratory bird habitat in the fall

Insect and seed eaters	Fruit eaters	Nectar drinkers
Asters both field and woodland	Viburnums (other than highbush cranberry)	Lobelia's
Coneflower	Spicebush	Turtlehead
Woodland sunflower	Red cedar	
White and blue vervain	Alternate-leaved dogwood	
Brown-eyed Susan	Ninebark	
Little and big bluestem		
Sideoats grama		
Joe pye weed		
Additional flowering plants and trees include		
Canada tick trefoil	Butterfly weed	Sycamore
Swamp milkweed	Wild bergamot	
Common mountain mint	Grasses and sedges	

There are many areas within Fifty Point where habitat enhancement through plantings of trees and shrubs and herbaceous plants could occur. Connecting the treed habitat along the main beach with the small area of pines to the west would improve natural connections across the property. It is recommended that the land-spit / point be planted in a mix of the above noted species. A trail through this area to provide access to bird watchers is also recommended. Planting a diversity of herbaceous plants into the meadows at Fifty Point would enhance them for both migratory birds and butterflies. Actively planting Common milkweed into these meadows would provide more habitat to the Monarch butterfly. As stated previously all non-manicured areas at Fifty Point are used by migratory birds. The open fields that have been left to naturalize had the least use by migratory birds. These areas are recommended for active restoration into a mix of shrubs, tree and herbaceous plants.

[.2 Fifty Mile Creek Corridor](#)

The majority of trees in the southern portion of this wetland and significant woodland are Ash. The majority of them have died due to the impacts of emerald Ash Borer. As these trees are removed as hazard trees, new trees and shrubs should be planted. A variety of willows and dogwoods could be planted that can withstand occasional pruning by Beaver. Other trees to be planted such as Swamp white oak, Sycamore, Red maple should be caged from the beavers. Staff will need to monitor all plantings and adapt strategies as needed to protect the plantings from the beavers and their associated impacts to the natural environment such as damming and flooding portions of the vegetated creek corridor. Non-native Reed canary grass is beginning to form dense mats within the wetland. When restoration tree plantings do occur, space will need to be

cut within the stands of Reed canary grass to allow the trees/shrubs to establish. Ongoing removal of reed canary grass from the new plantings will be required. Without active planting this area will overtime become a reed canary grass monoculture and much less suitable as migratory bird stopover habitat.

.3 Pond Area Restoration/Enhancement

Following the closure of the put-and-take Rainbow Trout Fishery in the pond in 2018, the HCA Board of Directors directed staff to investigate the pond to determine the feasibility of establishing a natural self-sustaining fishery. HCA staff undertook this study in 2019 and it was determined a natural fishery does already exist in the pond but it is limited by a lack of habitat due to the current pond profile. This man-made pond, a borrow-pit for the QEW construction, was not constructed with habitat in mind. To rectify this, additional habitat features in the pond, as well as shoreline naturalization, will need to be introduced in phases, keeping in mind access to the pond required by park visitors and organizations such as the model sailing boat group. The first and largest phase, the new wetland project, is underway concurrent with this Master Plan. This wetland was recommended in the 2000 Master Plan. An Environmental Assessment (EA) subsequently completed to address water flow from WC11 to the pond, and review potential for downstream flooding to adjacent residences confirmed the merits of a wetland at this location. Objectives of this project are noted in the following section. Additionally, all pond restoration projects intended to improve habitat diversity within the proposed areas, support the core conservation target of supporting migratory bird habitat.



.4 New Wetland/Watercourse Area

This project combines two objectives:

1. The diversion of the upper reaches of WC11 to the pond through a wetland in the north east corner. The falls within the area proposed for a wetland addition to the pond in the 2000 Master Plan.
2. The construction of additional fish habitat for the pond to help facilitate a natural self-sustaining fishery to replace the lost put-and-take Rainbow Trout fishery. The wetland specifically adds additional spawning and rearing habitat along with additional space. This project also proposes to complete some shoreline works within the original pond as well for further habitat diversification but the extent of this is undetermined at the time of writing.

.5 Shoreline Naturalization and Enhancement

.1 Riparian Area Projects

These projects are scalable and some are perfect for volunteers and community groups to participate in.

- Riparian vegetation planting along the shoreline to reduce bank erosion and enhance fish habitat.
- Naturalization of the east side of the pond north of the pedestrian bridge where the pond and creek are connected.
- Riparian plantings at the pond edge to reduce bank erosion and enhance fish habitat.
- Restoration of tree and shrub cover near the pond and for the new wetland through a robust annual tree and shrub planting program.
- Protective fencing of newly planted areas to keep geese and beavers out, monitoring of newly planted areas, and annual assessment of the grow-in to set priorities and goals for successive planting projects over the life of this plan.

.2 Fish Habitat Projects

These projects for the fishing pond are scalable and some are perfect for volunteers and community groups to participate in.

- Boulder/cobble/gravel cluster additions
- Woody debris and root wad additions
- Large bank habitat additions
 - These could be similar to what was done at Christie Lake with the addition of large woody materials to the shore and littoral sections of the pond. This would increase biodiversity along the pond shore by breaking up the perfectly manicured shoreline that is present due to how the pond was left following the fill extraction.
- Christmas Tree towers
- Aquatic vegetation plantings
- Sunken log cribs
- Fallen tree additions

.3 Common Carp Management

Common Carp are present in the pond and there may be a need for control to facilitate the restoration and self-sustaining fishery success. This will be assessed through the Master Plan timeline and implemented if needed.

.4 Fishing Dock installations

For the put-and-take rainbow trout fishery the pond edge was mowed to provide access to the water. This plan proposes to vegetate the shoreline which will reduce angler access and also to protect vegetation we will want to direct the anglers away from using the shoreline. The best way to do this is add in docks around the perimeter and restrict fishing to them.



- Install 5-7 docks around the perimeter to facilitate access to the pond for people to fish.
- Identify and manage trails to the docks minimizing impact to the vegetation community.
- Provide a dock and small boat ramp at the north end of the pond close to an improved parking area, that would allow canoe and kayak access into the pond for fishing and recreation.

.5 Signage

- Install more interpretive signage to educate visitors about the ecological importance of Fifty Point and projects HCA is undertaking visible from the main activity areas and along the trails.
- Install signage at the pond to educate visitors about preventing the spread of invasive species into the pond. Particularly targeted at the angling community to avoid the introduction of unwanted species to the pond.

See Section 7.0 for additional conservation area management recommendations.



6.0 OVERALL SITE CONCEPT

This Master Plan for Fifty Point balances the need to conserve the natural environment with the need to accommodate visitors and generate revenue. The property will continue to be divided between the protected natural areas, marina, camping, beach and day-use areas.

This section outlines the key concepts for this Master Plan that have come out of public and stakeholder consultation, staff workshops, meetings, detailed design sessions and inventory results. See *Appendix 1* for more information.

6.1 Marina

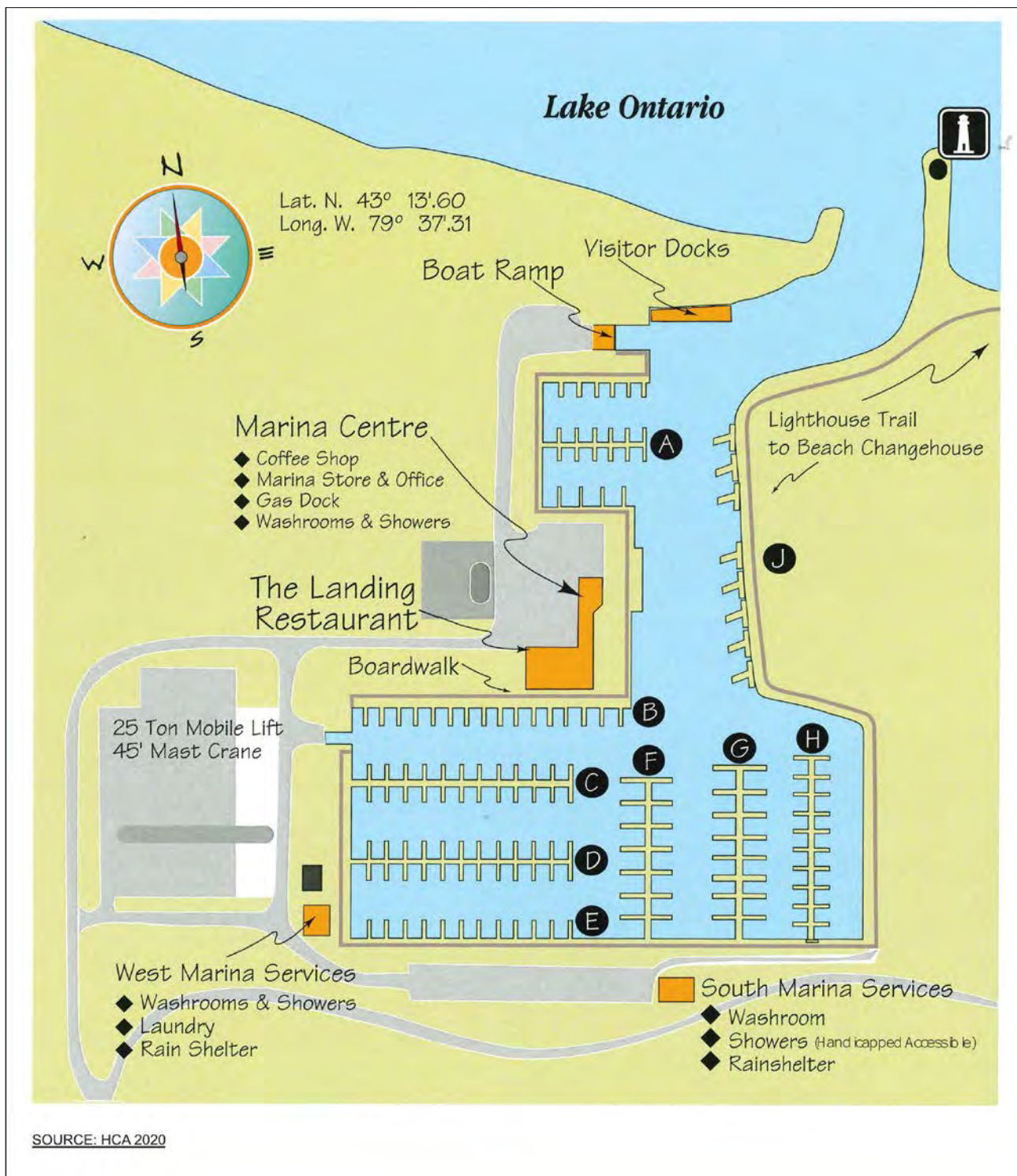
The Fifty Point marina was constructed in the 1980's and has consistently run at full capacity serving western Lake Ontario. The marina has docking spaces for 340 boats and a double boat launch. Marina facilities include a boat lift, fully serviced gas dock and pump-out station, visitor docks, hydro hook-ups, water, showers, washrooms, laundromat, restaurant and winter dry dock storage facilities. See Figure 10 for more information.

It is worth noting that the basin layout and inlet channel depth limit the size of boats in the marina. The marina is best suited for boats in the 30ft to 35ft range. There is limited space available for boats over 35ft, with a one-to- two-year wait list for slips. There has been interest over the years to expand the facility, however this is not expected to happen in the life of this plan given the other capital investments required to sustain the operation. See Section 9 for more information.

Fifty Point Marina has been honoured with the achievement of a Five Green Anchor Diamond rating under the Ontario Clean Marine program. This environmental program recognizes marine businesses that follow best environmental practices to reduce and prevent water, air and land pollution associated with recreational boating activities in Ontario. Marinas voluntarily join the program to participate in a 220-point assessment. Scores from the assessment are converted into an Eco-Rating system from one to five Green Anchors, with Gold, Diamond and Platinum as the highest achievements. Re-assessments are mandatory every four years with self-assessments conducted annually.

The Fifty Point Yacht Club is a not-for-profit club that has been in operating at Fifty Point since the opening of the marina in 1984. The Yacht Club organizes a number of family fun filled activities in and around the marina and cruises to various port on Lake Ontario. The FPYC also allows members to receive reciprocal privileges with other Yacht Clubs on Lake Ontario and beyond. Membership dues are channelled back into the marina to help HCA purchase items used by the boaters. The Yacht Club is a valued marina partner and their ongoing support is appreciated.

Figure 10. Marina Features



Source: HCA 2020 'Welcome to Fifty Point Marina' information package. Please note that the restaurant at the marina at the time of writing this master plan is Limani at Fifty Taverna

The Grimsby Auxiliary Marine Rescue Unit (GAMRU) uses the Fifty Point marina as a dispatch point for marine search and rescue operations. GAMRU South Shore Search and Rescue is the only dedicated marine search and rescue operation on the south shore of Lake Ontario between Hamilton and Port Weller. This not-for-profit organization is a member of the Canadian

Coast Guard Auxiliary (Central and Arctic). GAMRU has a storage locker and dock space in the marina, HCA welcomes their operation out of Fifty Point.

In general, although the marina operation is not proposed to expand during the life of this plan, it will continue to be a major source of revenue for HCA. Separate from this master plan, for the marina to sustain success, a strong annual business and operational plan is essential. Major maintenance of the marina will always be ongoing to sustain HCA's market share. When it comes time to replace the major infrastructure (such as the aging docks) a business analysis of the boating market is highly recommended, as well as third party consultation to review the dock layouts with detailed marine design recommendations. See Section 9 for more information.

6.2 Campground

The Fifty Point campground has 76 fully serviced sites (sewer, hydro and water), and offers a comfort station equipped with individual showers, an accessible shower, washrooms and laundry facilities. Campers are encouraged to utilize other zones of the park. For example, the marina restaurant, marina and boat ramp. A unique feature of Fifty Point's campground is the permitted storage of trailered boats in designated areas. Docking and camping packages are available, and the camping season runs from April to November. See *Appendix 1 Mapping*.

Fifty Point is one of two campgrounds located on Lake Ontario between Hamilton and Niagara Falls. Competing campgrounds in the area are located inland and offer patrons a different camping experience. Demand for campsites is growing and on trend to continue for the life of this plan. The pandemic has revitalized the recreational vehicle (RV) and trailer market, sales of units have skyrocketed and campsites in Ontario are benefitting with full bookings. The campsites at Fifty Point have been consistently fully booked for a number of years, and there is growing demand for more seasonal and monthly booking options.



The original campground design for 150-sites was endorsed by the Town of Grimsby and planned to be self-sufficient with respect to basic facilities. It is recommended that for the life of this plan, the existing campground be improved upon as shown on the appended zoning and development maps.

As noted in Section 3.4 Site Concept/Philosophy and on Map 6, *Appendix 1*, upon future development of lands to the east, the campground sites will need to be buffered. Adjacent development without adequate perimeter security (fencing) and visual buffers (landscaping) would negatively affect the camping experience appreciated by our visitors.

As noted in Section 5.2, the soils on site are not well suited for sewage tile beds. If municipal water and sewage lines could be accessed this ,would allow HCA to upgrade services for both the campground and beach area, as was done at the marina. At the very least, winterizing of all service lines in the campground is recommended in the capital plan. Since some water lines are currently set too shallow and limit the length of the operating season. No change to the group camping sites is anticipated for the life of this plan. See Section 10 for more information.

6.3 Day Use

Fifty Point's day use areas include the Lake Ontario shoreline swimming beach, separate pet friendly beach, scenic lookout points, picnic areas, beach facilities, the fishing pond, pond bridge, barrier free fishing platform, the recreational trail system, group and individual picnic areas, a soccer field, as well as two picnic pavilions available for rental.

Fifty Point is recognized as a bird watching hot spot in the Golden Horseshoe area. It is in the middle of an internationally recognized Important Birding Area and the landform that juts out into Lake Ontario is known as a wonderful spot to watch for migrating waterfowl and pelagic (sea) birds. A lookout platform, benches, educational interpretive signs, and picnic tables are in this area for bird watchers and park visitors.

South of the beach area is a 3.2-hectare open space that has been developed with parking areas. This entire area of the site is proposed to be re-developed to optimize day use parking for the day use beach.



Over the years, manicured grass areas have been reduced in the conservation area, and naturalized areas that have evolved have been supplemented with plantings by volunteers and HCA staff. Tree planting will continue to be a priority to supplement trees lost to disease and age, for the park natural areas and picnic areas. See section 7 for more information.

West of the fishing pond are partly naturalized areas and open space for free play. HCA is currently working on design plans for a small wetland area to be situated at the north west side of the pond, to provide natural habitat and handle site drainage items raised in a recent EA report, see Section 5 for more information.

For more information on proposed plans for the day use area, see Section 10 and *Appendix 1, Map 5 Site Concept*.

6.4 Marketing

There are marketing and communications activities for Fifty Point provided by HCA including promotion through print, and on various social media platforms.

During public engagement for this Master Plan, three Visitor Surveys were conducted to gather information from our Day Use, Campground, and Marina visitors. From May 27th to August 15th 2021 over 400 surveys were submitted by the public, with the majority coming from day use visitors. See *Appendix 5* for survey highlights. These surveys will be reviewed by marketing staff when preparing marketing materials for Fifty Point during the lifespan of this plan.

Key marketing items from the surveys and staff workshops to be addressed in the lifespan of this Master Plan include the following:

.1 Day Use:

A significant number of our day use visitors who submitted surveys live in the nearby community and within a 15 minutes drive. The beach and trails are the primary draw, and staff observe increased walk-in traffic and repeat visitation. As evidenced by HCA trail counters, a significant amount of walk-in traffic came in the main park entrance. With the two pedestrian gates closed at the Lake Pointe community during the covid pandemic, an overwhelming number of comments in the survey were to request re-opening of these gates for access. As noted in Section 3.3 Objectives, access for the visitor is a high priority item. HCA is moving to automated gate systems across the watershed to fairly and efficiently collect payment to enter conservation areas. It is recommended that all pedestrian gates existing or proposed at Fifty Point follow suit, and be configured to allow for swipe card access to enter. Marketing of the HCA annual membership pass to the day use visitor will assist with this initiative.

.2 Campground:

HCA's online camping reservation system is used by a majority of the visitors to reserve their campsite. There is strong demand for seasonal trailer sites and trailer storage. A move to seasonal sites is being recommended in this plan, to not only alleviate traffic at the main gate seen with campsite turnover, but fit the camping experience offered in this relatively small area. Expansion of the campground (see Section 3.4 Site Concept/Philosophy), modification of the campsites, and introduction of new camping features such as cabins, if implemented, would need to be marketed accordingly and accommodated in the camping reservation system.

.3 Marina:

The marina office handles all boater inquiries, the majority of boaters are repeat customers and/or have heard of the marina through word of mouth. Many of Fifty Point's boaters live in the nearby community, and enjoy the opportunity of the boating lifestyle close to home.

Word of mouth in the boating community brings in most of the customers. It is worth noting that there is a 1 to 2 year wait list for boats between 31 feet and 38 feet needing a dock slip. Boats of this size are the target market for the marina, given the inlet configuration, water depth, and dockage suited to the basin. Further review of the boating market, and competing interests of similar marinas is recommended to be explored further with the capital improvement plan.

It is recommended that at a minimum, marketing objectives for Fifty Point include the following:

- Market Fifty Point as an affordable, quality, family day-trip destination.
- Market visitation at non-peak times, shoulder seasons to extend capacity to serve the growing community.
- Increase education and awareness of Fifty Point's natural environment and heritage.
- Review the survey and trail count data in this plan when developing market surveys.
- Leverage tourism partnerships to identify tourism and marketing trends.
- Market new features in this plan to help attract interest, drive revenue, target user groups, reach out to stakeholders, and serve the community.



7.0 CONSERVATION AREA MANAGEMENT

7.1 Land and Water Management

.1 Management Planning

Land and water management planning will be accomplished through adherence to the guidelines of the conservation area zones noted in this Master Plan, and through additional resource management plans developed by HCA as necessary during the life of this Master Plan. The overall intent will be to ensure protection and conservation of the significant natural areas at Fifty Point noted as Nature Reserve (Wetland) and Natural Zones on Map 4 appended.

Significant natural heritage features identified at Fifty Point include Environmentally Significant Areas (ESA) and wetlands. These areas are identified in the City of Hamilton Official Plan as Cores Areas and part of the Natural Heritage System. The Official Plan provides for the protection of such features, and no new development or site alterations are permitted within or adjacent to ESA's unless it can be shown, through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that there will be no negative impacts on the ecological features or functions of the ESA. The floodplain associated with Fifty Mile Creek is also protected from development under both provincial and HCA policies.

All sewage from washrooms on septic holding tank systems will continue to be disposed of off site . Municipal services are currently provided to the marina area. It would be desirable to extend municipal services to other areas of the property, particularly the day use beach area and campground, as the soils on site are not suitable for tile bed septic systems. Waste consisting of natural materials will be reused or composted inside the conservation area where feasible and appropriate. Otherwise, all solid waste will be removed from the conservation area for recycling or disposal.

Wherever possible, new development or redevelopment will be undertaken so as not to disrupt natural drainage. Zone resource management plans will seek to restore natural drainage where it has been disrupted by past or present development.

.2 Public Infrastructure – Utilities, Trails and Transportation

Public infrastructure such as utility corridors (watermains, storm and sanitary sewers, natural gas or oil pipelines, hydro and communication corridors), trails (footpaths, boardwalks) and transportation links may cross conservation area lands. These uses may also have associated rights-of-way, land use agreements, licenses of occupation, permits etc. that are to be considered in the management of the conservation area and when implementing items from this Master Plan.

When new public infrastructure projects are proposed within conservation area owned lands, such uses will be subject, but not limited to the following criteria:

- The need for the project, area of construction disturbance, and potential site

disruption such as soil erosion, flooding, and vegetation loss.

- To maintain or where possible improve or restore key ecological linkages, habitat, and wildlife movement corridors.
- The potential public benefits of the project for research, education, or recreation in the conservation area.
- HCA may require detailed environmental assessments, studies, and resource management plans in order to support such land uses.

7.2 Vegetation Management

Where active management is required for a particular plant or animal species, it will be accomplished through an acceptable HCA resource management strategy considering the guidelines outlined in this Master Plan, and in accordance with policies of all governing agencies.

Forest plantations will be managed in accordance with the MDMNRF approved Managed Forest Plan for Fifty Point. Forest plantations and treed areas will also be managed to remove hazard trees in areas of public use such as recreational trails and picnic areas. Hazard tree removal is only to be done in the winter (December to March) outside of migratory bird breeding season.

Invasive species are in the conservation area and HCA places a high priority on invasive species management to maintain biodiversity and conservation values at Fifty Point. See Section 5.14 for more information on invasive species vegetation management.

Additional non-native plant species will not be deliberately introduced into the conservation area. Introduction of any new plant species by HCA will consider the core conservation targets noted in Section 5.16, biodiversity of this site and contiguous surroundings, historical data of species present in the area, native species research findings, and additional relevant species inventories, within an approved restoration and stewardship strategy. In this Master Plan “non-native” means species not native to Ontario as well as species native to Ontario but not to Fifty Point. If established non-native plant species threaten natural heritage values, a program for their eradication will be developed subject to specific guidelines noted in the natural heritage inventory of this Master Plan.

Vegetation may be mowed only:

- Along the conservation area boundary, where mowing would assist in clearer boundary identification.
- In the development zone of this Master Plan to support public usage of the open space, and only to the extent necessary.
- As required along roadways and recreational trails for safety.

- To assist in the control of invasive species, trees and brush may be cut and pruned only.
- To enable resource management or facility development specifically authorized by this Master Plan or an HCA approved resource management or other implementation plan.
- To ensure public safety.
- In service easements i.e., Utility corridors, subject to specific service agreements.

Trees may not be cut for the sole purpose of providing firewood. Trees and brush cut in nature reserve and natural zones outside of the forest plantations will be left to deteriorate naturally as close as possible to where they have been felled, or if that is not feasible, may be used for firewood or wood chips in the conservation area.

Native insects and diseases affecting vegetation will be allowed to progress naturally, except where they threaten significant natural heritage values in nature reserve and natural zones, or significant aesthetic and infrastructure values in development zones. Non-native insects and diseases will be controlled where feasible. Where controls are undertaken, it will be directed as narrowly as possible to the specific insect or disease so as to have minimal effects on the surrounding environment. Biological controls will be used whenever possible.

Fires in the day use area are not permitted. Fire pit areas and fires may be considered by HCA with the campground operation.

Chemical fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides and suppressants will not be used for any vegetation management purpose except:

- Insect and disease control under the conditions set out in this section of the Master Plan.
- Eradication of non-native species where it has been demonstrated other methods are not feasible.
- Control of poison ivy in development zones.

7.3 Fish and Wildlife Management

Where applicable on the Conservation Area property, fisheries management will seek to maintain and enhance native, self-sustaining fish populations. Where applicable, waters in nature reserve zones may be closed to angling temporarily or permanently for fisheries or wildlife research or management purposes.

See Section 5.12 for more information on the fishery, policies, and practices for the pond and creek.

For Terrestrial Flora and Fauna there is no harvest allowed within the Conservation Area to protect the populations with an exception for Research (see Section 7.7)

For wildlife/human conflict, HCA has developed the Hamilton Conservation Authority Wildlife Conflict Management Strategy (WCMS). This strategy outlines the process and methods staff are to follow when dealing with any animal related issues in the Fifty Point Conservation Area. This document was produced by the Hamilton Conservation Authority Wildlife Management Committee (WMC). The WMC was a special committee of the Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA) that was established in May 2014 based on HCA staff recommendation and at the direction of the HCA Board of Directors. The purpose of the WMC was to develop best management protocols and practices for the management of wildlife on HCA lands.

As noted in Section 5.3, there is a resident beaver population that has had impacts on the natural systems on site. HCA is monitoring this population and taking action to remove dams as necessary to protect park capital assets (roadways, bridges etc.) Other management actions, in accordance with the WCMS, may also be required such as vegetation management and landscape planning to assist in managing impacts. As noted in Section 5.14.1.2 Significant Fauna, strategies will also be required for birds such as barn swallows nesting in park pavilions and buildings. All capital assets in the park are recommended to be inventoried for wildlife impacts and best management practices and strategies developed that address both wildlife management and capital asset protection.

Additional non-native animal species will not be deliberately introduced to the conservation area, with the exception of animals brought into the heritage village area for educational and interpretive purposes. If already established, non-native species threaten the conservation area values, a program for their eradication may be developed if feasible and practical. Missing native species may be re-introduced, and existing populations replenished if feasible and acceptable to HCA.

7.4 Cultural Heritage Management

Significant cultural heritage features, such as the Ingledale House, will be protected from incompatible development in the conservation area. Incompatible resource uses and recreational activities will be restricted or prohibited where necessary to protect cultural heritage resources. The cultural heritage zone set out in this plan for the Ingledale House is intended to define the area on site where this protection is to be enforced by HCA.

Archaeological and historical artifacts may only be removed, and heritage landscapes altered, as part of an HCA approved cultural heritage research or management plan.

Archaeological studies have not been completed at Fifty Point. Further historic research and archaeological study is encouraged. Management strategies for any archaeological sites found in the future may range from allowing the sites to remain without interference, to research, excavation, and rehabilitation. Protection and management will be undertaken in consultation with all governing agencies and first nations.

7.5 Conservation Area Operations

HCA will provide staff with information and resources as required to operate the conservation area on a day-to-day basis. This will include specific direction for the management and operation of all facilities and activities and address such topics as budgets, staffing, maintenance, enforcement and emergency services. The operation plan will be reviewed annually and updated as required.

Self-serve facilities may be developed, and individual volunteers and partner organizations may be involved in conservation area programs as approved by the HCA.

The HCA has the right to suspend operations of any facilities or services due to funding limitations, but in so doing will ensure that heritage values are not impaired and customer service standards are affected as little as possible.

New business practices may be introduced into the conservation area operations in accordance with HCA policy such as:

- Improving operating efficiency and controlling costs.
- Contracting out some operating functions.
- Improving customer service standards.



7.6 Education

Education in the conservation area is intended to develop visitors' awareness and appreciation of Ontario's natural and cultural heritage, fostering a commitment to protect that heritage for all generations. Education opportunities are meant to be educational and recreational, formal and informal, and accessible to all. Information, education, and outdoor recreation are the three main components of education in the conservation area. The level of service provided at Fifty Point will be determined by its significance and visitation.

7.7 Research

The Fifty Point Conservation Area, like all of HCA's properties, provide in essence an opportunity for living laboratories. HCA Ecologists monitor the health of lands using established protocols and can, when needed, develop special research programs to answer resource related questions.

Outside Research by qualified individuals that contributes to the knowledge of natural and cultural history and to environmental and recreational management will be encouraged by HCA staff.

All research projects will require authorization from HCA and authorization is obtained by contacting the staff ecologists who administer the process and issue letters of permission.

7.8 Recreation

Entry to Fifty Point will be controlled year-round, and HCA will enforce the collection of entrance fees from visitors. Day use parking spaces are provided on a first come, first serve basis and visitors may be restricted from entering the conservation area when the parking areas are full.

The following motorized recreational activities will not be permitted in the conservation area:

- All-terrain vehicle use
- Motor bikes on trails
- Snowmobiling
- Unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV)
- All motor powered watercraft on the fishing pond

The following recreational activities are permitted in the conservation area:

- Boating (marina)
- Non-motorized boating: canoeing, kayaking, paddleboarding (pond)
- Camping
- Birdwatching
- Hiking
- Cycling
- Fishing
- Swimming
- Picnicking
- Winter Activities: Cross Country Skiing, Snowshoeing, Ice Skating (pond).
- Geocaching
- Model Boat Sailing (pond)



A long-term goal of this Master Plan is to provide visitors with appropriate, high quality, sustainable recreational experiences. Recreational opportunities are to be provided that are appropriate to the conservation area and Master Plan zones outlined in Section 3.

7.9 Partnerships

HCA values the community support from area residents and landowners, businesses, service clubs, interested First Nations, volunteers, and volunteer organizations that currently or could contribute in a variety of ways at Fifty Point. The HCA will continue to nurture existing support and will seek out new opportunities for partnerships. Current support provided by the Hamilton Conservation Foundation, Fifty Point Yacht Club, Fifty Point Model Sailing Group, Hamilton Naturalists' Club and GAMRU is encouraged and welcomed. Collaborative partnerships are welcomed to help HCA efficiently achieve its goals and objectives at Fifty Point.

HCA also values the relationships with neighbouring landowners and working cooperatively to manage natural areas and the species that utilize and inhabit Fifty Point's natural areas. HCA Stewardship Action Plans, public consultation, and stewardship work are examples of this and are to be encouraged for the life of this Master Plan.



Volunteers are governed by volunteer policies set by HCA. Volunteer programs shall be maintained and developed to provide for recruitment, orientation, training, supervision, health and safety instruction, evaluation and recognition. Volunteer programs shall be considered in all business decisions made by HCA in the operation of this conservation area.

7.10 Paid Staff

A supplemental operation plan is recommended to be developed for Fifty Point by HCA staff once this Master Plan is adopted.

Fifty Point, similar to staffing at other conservation areas, includes full time permanent employees and a number of part time casual employees to undertake its operations.

In addition, staff from other departments at HCA are involved in varying capacities with the management and operation of Fifty Point. Staff may also be involved in supervising the activities of outside consultants, partners, or contractors retained by HCA.



8.0 FINANCIAL

8.1 Attendance and Revenue Forecasts

Visitor attendance, and operating revenue and expenses for Fifty Point are listed in *Appendixes 4 and 5*.

Visitation to Fifty Point has remained stable over the past five years, and during the pandemic day use beach visitation increased significantly. Visitation is anticipated to remain strong for the life of this plan, as population growth and development transform the surrounding area. The majority of visitors hear about Fifty Point by word of mouth, live within a one-hour drive of the conservation area, and are returning visitors. Further analysis of the visitor data is in Section 8.4 Business Model.

Fifty Point's financial success is expected to continue to rely heavily on the marina, with opportunity to increase revenue by enhancing the under-utilized day use areas away from the beach. Day use visitation offers opportunities for increased revenue generation through special events and programs and enhancing existing features in the day use area will also help to attract and retain repeat visitors.



8.2 Capital Projects

The capital development priorities list in *Appendix 2* provides preliminary estimates for the development envisioned in the Master Plan. As noted in Sections 3.7, 5.16 and 6.0, the following capital development priorities are proposed for the next ten years at Fifty Point:

.1 Replace Significant Park Features

High water levels in Lake Ontario in recent years have necessitated major capital work projects to repair the shoreline and floating docks and boardwalks at the marina. The marina pilings need to be extended and expanded to handle high lake levels; and docks, boardwalks, as well as adding new docks and replacing the lookout platforms at the fishing point within the next ten years. HCA staff are monitoring and repairing these features for public safety until replacements can be implemented.

Increased visitation, larger and heavier vehicles / trailers/ and boats have put greater demands on the main roadway system in the park. Roadway dust blowing into the marina is also of concern to the marina patrons. Road resurfacing or full road reconstruction is recommended as a high priority project in the capital plan.

.2 Add New Park Features

The park entrance at Baseline Road is targeted as a priority area for new capital development to drive revenue and improve customer service. New capital investment to improve traffic flow, site security, and pedestrian and cyclist access are targeted for this area. See *Appendix 1 Mapping* for more information.

Access improvements at the Kelson Road service entrance are proposed to improve visitor access into the day use beach area during peak holidays and weekends, relieving the traffic demands on the main park entrance. New capital investment for fencing, gates, gatehouse, roadways, culverts, and signage is recommended to be phased in with the main entrance improvements.

The area north of the campground that is currently unutilized, was reviewed for potential campground expansion. Further site investigation is required to determine suitability of this area for campsite development. The cost/benefit of expansion into this area, weighing other recreation or naturalizing options for the area as well as day use pressures and marina operational requirements will need to be considered. Improvements to the existing campground are recommended as a first step before expansion. Consequently, the park zoning maps show this area as a resource management zone, which would allow for both natural areas restoration and passive recreation use. Passive recreation could include, for example, recreational trails in this area for nature appreciation while the area is being reviewed for future potential development opportunities.

.3 Enhance Existing Park Features

Rounding out the capital improvements for this Master Plan is enhancement of existing park features for improved customer service.

Site improvements west of the main park entrance are recommended to create a separate staff and service entrance. This work area includes the rental house, service buildings, and work yard. Security gates and fencing, road works, and various building projects will need to be phased in the annual capital development plan.

Various fencing projects will need to be implemented to improve security of the park perimeter, access points, and added boat storage areas for the marina. This includes retrofitting of the existing pedestrian access gates for swipe card use.

Various restoration projects will need to be implemented in the natural and resource management areas, including invasive species management, and restoration works at the new wetland site and fishing pond. Existing and new built structures and pavilions will also need to be designed to avoid conflicts between visitors and wildlife (such as Barn Swallows). See Section 5.16 Natural Areas Recommendations for more information. These initiatives are noted in the capital plan, costs for these projects are to be refined through further ecological review

and recommendations.

A number of capital improvements are recommended to support the existing day-use activities. These include improvements to all the parking areas, expanding the beach washrooms, adding public washrooms at the fishing pond, adding a park pavilion at the campground, shade structures at the Ingledale day use area, improving pond access including replacement and new docks, and trail improvements between all parking lots and activity areas. These projects are recommended to be phased in the annual capital development plan. Some of these projects such as a park pavilion could be good donor projects with which the Foundation could assist.

Capital projects should not be started until a long-term strategy with timelines and costs for each project are clearly stated and sufficient resources are available to complete them. As well, the additional operational costs for each item should be factored into the capital strategy.

8.3 Funding Sources

Historically funding was available from the Federal government for recreational harbours and marina infrastructure development, which allowed for the development of the marina facilities we see today at Fifty Point. Other funding sources, such as from the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation allowed for the barrier free fishing dock to be built. Recently, corporate donations flowing through the Hamilton Conservation Foundation resulted in the trail system and pedestrian bridge installed at the pond in 2016 - 2017.

HCA's operation of Fifty Point is entirely self-funded. Financial statements are audited every year and are available to the public once approved by the HCA Board of Directors.

Revenue is generated through gate admissions (gate and pre-sold tickets), vehicle passes, boating and marina services, camping reservations and camping services, the restaurant, coffee shop, day-use concessions (food, novelty sales etc.) and miscellaneous items as outlined in Appendix 4. Special events and programs help bring new visitors to the conservation area, with word-of-mouth advertising bringing most visitors to Fifty Point. Fifty Point has operated for over fifty years in the community and has a number of visitors who have returned faithfully over the years with their families.



Financing for special projects and annual capital development will continue to be provided through grants, sponsorship, corporate donations and

private donations. The Hamilton Conservation Foundation also provides funding for specific projects. There is good potential for increasing donor funding, donor recognition is also a key element that needs to be sustained.

User and membership fees will continue to be the primary funding source for the operation of Fifty Point. Since the marina drives most of the revenue, HCA will need to wisely manage available resources to efficiently serve boaters in this competitive market, while protecting and managing the natural areas and attending to the needs of campers and day-use visitors on the property.

8.4 Business Model

Fifty Point has succeeded in becoming an affordable, quality, boating, camping and day-use destination for families, their visiting friends and relatives, and tourists. Its product has multi-market appeal, and operates on a strategic principal of “user-pay” to break even or realize net operational revenue for recreational programs.

HCA recognizes that the marina, publicly accessible shoreline and swimming beach, and near urban location of Fifty Point are significant factors in the popularity and success of the conservation area. Consequently, supporting sustainable management and operation of these features are to be addressed in all business decisions for the implementation of this Master Plan. The goals outlined in Section 3.2 are provided to help guide this process.

Increasing revenue at Fifty Point will require HCA to refine their marketing, business, and development strategies to:

- Continue to attract boaters, campers and day use visitors, and provide quality recreational facilities and services so they will be encouraged to return.
- Continue to market the HCA membership pass card for repeat visitors, and provide card swipe access to capture revenue from larger numbers of pedestrians and cyclists entering the conservation area.
- Diligently sustain the natural resource value of the conservation area by limiting activities to the zones prescribed in this Master Plan.
- Continue to invest in the marina and campground facilities to keep pace with recreational trends and improve operational efficiency.
- Continue to promote Fifty Point as a natural recreation area offering families open space for unstructured play, nature appreciation, swimming and picnicking.
- Provide visitors with opportunities to spend more money when on site.



- Continually monitor customer service, and conduct on-site and market research campaigns as necessary to measure customer satisfaction.
- Continue to explore pilot projects (such as Ingledale House programs, camping cabins and food service options), and best management practices as means of growing revenue and operating effectively.
- Continue to leverage tourism industry partnerships, public relations, community outreach, and corporate sponsorship.

Cost recovery is a prime requirement for all services and programs delivered at Fifty Point. In the development of programs, the following factors will be considered: anticipated attendance, income sources, market, volunteer resources, HCA staffing requirements, advertising, insurance, administration, operation costs and maintenance expenses.

Concepts embodied in this Master Plan are to be weighed against the marketing demands for increased performance, attendance, programming, market penetration, awareness and ultimately financial return.



9.0 MARINA MANAGEMENT

9.1 Boating Market

From the 2000 Master Plan it was determined that marina expansion at Fifty Point would not be financially viable. Consequently, this master plan does not propose expansion of the marina basin. A cursory review of capital costs indicates minimal cost/benefit to HCA to proceed with expansion and disrupt the current operation. In addition, capital costs to repair and replace the aging infrastructure (piling, boardwalks, docks) over the next ten years will stretch HCA's capital budgets. See *Appendix 2*.

When the marina was constructed at Fifty Point, a number of other marinas were built on Lake Ontario to support a growing seasonal recreational boating market. HCA has on hand boating market reports and analysis that were completed during that time to evaluate the potential for the Fifty Point marina. Over the past thirty years the boating market has fluctuated with the economy, but Fifty Point's location has allowed it to run at capacity despite dips in the market. The marina is in a financially strong position, there is demand for boat storage, and an annual waiting list for dock slips has demand exceeding supply. Despite the observed recreational trend to larger and larger boats (40ft and larger), staff operational analysis indicates the marina operation can be financially sustained serving the 30 to 35-foot recreational boat market. See *Appendix 4*.

Table 14, Marina Facilities, presents a picture of the current marina supply/demand scenario.



Table 14. Marina Facilities

Location	Name	Slips	Water	Power	Fuel	Pumpout	Ramp	Haul-out	Washrm	Shower	Laundry	Food	Storage
Mississauga	Port Credit Harbour Marina	550	X	15/30	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
	Port Credit Yacht Club	386	X	30/50	X	X		X	X	X		X	
	Lakefront Promenade Marina	175	X	15/30	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
	Credit Village Marina	56	X	15/30					X	X	X	X	
	Mississauga Sailing Club	-					X		X	X			X
Oakville	Bronte Harbour Yacht Club	80	X	30			X	X	X	X		X	X
	Bronte Outer Harbour Marina	420	X	15/30/50	X	X		X	X	X		X	X
	Oakville Powerboat Club	260	X	30	X	X			X	X			
	Oakville Yacht Squadron	76	X	X				X	X	X		X	X
Burlington	Burlington Sailing/Boating Club	-				X		X	X	X		X	X
	Lasalle Park Marina	219	X	X		X	X		X				
Hamilton	Harbour West Marina	350	X	30/50/100	X	X		X	X	X	X		X
	Royal Hamilton Yacht Club	126	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Macassa Bay Yacht Club	110	X	30					X	X		X	
	Newport Yacht Club	250	X	30		X			X	X	X		
	50 Point Marina	340	X	30	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Grimsby	Foran's Marina	125	X	X	X	X	X		X	X			
	Lakecourt Marine	80	X	X			X						
Lincoln	Jordan Harbour Marina	80	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		
St Catharines	Dalhousie Yacht Club	112	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X
	Port Dalhousie Pier Marina	400	X	15/30		X		X	X	X		X	X
	St Catharines Marina	185	X	15/30	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Niagara-On-The-Lake	NOTL Sailing Club	193	X	30	X	X	X	X	X	X			
	Smuggler's Cove Boat Club	55	X	X					X				
Niagara Falls	Niagara Parks Marina	110	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	
Lake Erie	Buffalo Yacht Club	123	X	X		X	X		X	X	X		
	Bertie Boating Club	161	X	X		X	X		X	X		X	
	Sugarloaf Harbour Marina	400	X	30/50	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

A cursory review of Table 14 reveals a significant supply of recreational boating slips in the western Lake Ontario area. It should be noted that the Bronte, Beacon, and Port Dalhousie marinas have Federal government donated breakwaters costing several million dollars each, and that Hamilton has invested significant dollars in floating breakwaters for its marinas.

Significant operating expenses for the Fifty Point marina includes the need to dredge the inlet every three to five years. There is no foreseeable way to overcome this through design or alteration of the shoreline, so dredging will be an ongoing capital expense for HCA.

An opportunity exists, however, to improve the marina operation and financial bottom line when the time comes to replace the floating docks. It is recommended that a detailed design study be conducted of the marina dock configuration and alternative layouts be reviewed. See section 9.2 for more information.



9.2 Boating Facilities

The boat launch is very active and capital plans are in place to improve the facility. The personal watercraft market is growing. Trends show increased sales of non-motorized craft (SUP, canoe, kayak) and motorized small pleasure craft. In recent years Fifty Point has seen an increase in jet ski use at the launch and on the lake. A segment of the jet ski community coming into the marina off the lake has caused some conflicts with our marina patrons. HCA is reconsidering whether to permit jet ski access at the marina. There are other boat launch areas along the shoreline for jet skis to use. It is recommended that all boat ramp operations be further reviewed for HCA to better determine the types of boats to be permitted in the marina annual operation plan.

During the early period of the COVID-19 pandemic, a number of the marina services were shut down including the restaurant, coffee shop, and washroom buildings. During this down time HCA evaluated the health and safety protocols necessary to re-open the coffee shop and cost/benefit of doing so. It may be more cost effective to close the coffee shop and provide alternative food and beverage options in select locations on site, to augment the food services already provided by the restaurant. Further evaluation is recommended to determine the best use of the marina building space before committing capital funds.

A high priority item and revenue generator for the marina is dry sail storage. Fifty Point's boat storage market is expanding but not all of the storage areas are fenced. It is recommended that additional fencing be provided to expand the current boat storage areas, and a new fenced area be created in a portion of the parking lot by the Ingledale House.



10.0 RECREATION MANAGEMENT

10.1 Campground

Fifty Point currently offers 76 campsites, with electrical and water hookups, group camping areas, and is open to all members of the public looking for a vacation experience, rather than a seasonal residence. See *Appendix 1*, Map 6 for more information.

Campsites allow for up to six people, three shelters, and one camper unit per site. One vehicle is free with the camping permit, and up to two vehicles are allowed per site. More overflow vehicle parking is happening in the campground from campsite visitors, this camping trend is expected to continue. As well, campers bring storage trailers and trailered boats that are accommodated in designated storage areas of the campground. The majority of campers arrive with trailers over 20ft, and seasonal sites are in high demand and fully-booked through the camping season. With the recreational trend to larger trailers, a comprehensive review of the campground layout is recommended, with an eye to improving all current campsites to accommodate trailers over 20ft.

With the seasonal campers who have family and friends visiting, there has been demand to have an area where groups could visit without disturbing adjacent sites. It is recommended that a pavilion be constructed near the washroom building, dedicated for this purpose and available for rental by campground patrons.

The camping season runs approximately from the May Long Weekend to Thanksgiving. Visitors surveyed tend to stay 2-3 nights, camp 2-3 times per year, and reserve their camp sites in advance through online booking, as noted in the visitor survey comments in *Appendix 5*. Camping check-in is from 2pm and check out is before 1pm. Quiet hours are enforced from 10:30pm to 8:00am.



Fifty Point campers value the opportunity to camp seasonally, in a family friendly atmosphere, within a close drive to home. Some campers have Fifty Point as a summer seasonal residence and travel south to a winter residence. Although the pandemic has interrupted this travel for “snowbirds”, a resurgence in recreational trailer camping is on trend and trailer sales are high. This trend has brought new campers into the market seeking trailer sites, and it is anticipated campground bookings will remain strong for the life of this plan.

Campground expansion has been reviewed in this plan, see Section 3.4 Site Concept/Philosophy for more information. Expansion will be reviewed further in the life of this plan, weighing other recreation or naturalizing options for the area north of the campground, day use pressures, and marina operational requirements.

Of note, staff are also seeing greater demand at the campground and marina for more services such as enhanced wi-fi for mobile device use. HCA will need to stay abreast of the market needs and adapt the suite of park services necessary to sustain market share.

Trailer storage within the campground during the off-season is also recommended, to free up other areas in the conservation area for boat storage.

10.2 Education and Interpretation Programs

Fifty Point offers a limited number of education and interpretation programs to campers and day-use visitors as staff time and resources allow. HCA also supports partnerships with outside agencies to run children's day-camps and camping programs. A small number of visitors are becoming interested in helping with program delivery, and could be recruited as volunteers with training and supervision. From our public outreach for this plan, visitors indicated they would like to see more interpretive programs and activities provided in the park. Suggestions included live interpretive shows, guided nature hikes, geocaching, and camp crafts.



The Ingledale House is a centrally located historical landmark. It could serve as an interpretive centre for education programs both on-site and off-site. With input from HCA's Westfield Heritage Village staff, area historical groups, organizations, and interested citizens, great potential exists for the Ingledale House to be a hub for public interpretive programs/tours and special events.

Education and interpretive programs are also an opportunity to entice new visitors, and provide variety for repeat visitors. Opportunities range from self-guided tours with interpretive signs along the trail system, to hands-on activities, educational demonstrations, live shows, workshops, and more. Some potential themes that could be explored include:

- Water management
- Fish and wildlife
- Tender fruit agriculture
- Wineries
- The Niagara Escarpment
- Local history
- Role of Conservation Authority

All programs should relate to HCA's strategic value of providing outdoor learning experiences, and increasing knowledge and awareness of the value of our environment and heritage.

10.3 Day Use

Picnic areas are to be enhanced with additional shade tree planting and shade structures that may be reserved by groups. The Ingledale House area should be targeted for these improvements to bring more visitors into this area of the site. Washrooms for the Ingledale area are also a priority item for the same reason. Other considerations should be given to whether the soccer field should remain. With the new wetland project underway near this location, and recommendations for improved parking and docks at the fishing pond, there will be more visitors wanting to park nearby and access this space. More detailed design is recommended to improve the parking, trail access, and passive recreational amenities for this space.

All day use areas are intended to provide flexible open space for unstructured outdoor recreational activities and programs, allowing people to experience the natural environment. HCA has been moving away from providing large play structures, and playground infrastructure due to the high maintenance and land requirements for these features. These features are provided in the area municipal parks.

Fifty Point has five group picnic areas: Willows, Ironwoods, Poplars, Walnuts and Pears that may be reserved. Additional tree planting for these areas is recommended.



The beach area will continue to be a strong draw for visitors and a number of capital improvements are recommended for this area to handle the demand. Washrooms, parking, and trail access improvements are the highest priority. The beach area is also an important habitat for birds and the resource management zones in this area should be targeted for habitat enhancement. Volunteer planting projects would help with this initiative. Shoreline hardening work has already been completed and a trail reroute near the pet friendly beach is being planned.

10.4 Facility Rentals

Fifty Point will continue to offer group camping areas and the Winona and Lakeside Pavilions for rental. Additional picnic pavilions are proposed to be added to the fishing pond day-use area for rental as noted in Section 10.3.

HCA receives income from renting the Ingledale House and the Baseline Road house. As noted in Section 6.1, these agreements are recommended for review with the goals of this Master Plan.

Fifty Point has been used as a filming location, and filming on site will continue to be supported with strict procedures so the integrity of the site is not sacrificed.

Wedding parties may use the site for outdoor service, photographic opportunities, outdoor reception and more. School and community groups are welcomed to reserve use of the property for day-use camps etc.

The beach concession which operated as a store in the past, is not intended to operate as such in the life of this plan. Concession services may be provided by alternative means such as vending machines. The future use of this space will need to be reviewed in more detail, to assess the potential for facility rental or other use.



11.0 SUMMARY

Fifty Point has been successfully operating for over 50 years, offering generations of boaters, campers, and day use visitors' access to Lake Ontario.

This Master Plan identifies the natural features of the property to be protected, natural area management recommendations, and land use zones intended to help guide future planning, development, and management of the conservation area.

As the surrounding area continues to develop and grow, Fifty Point will remain a green oasis of nature and recreational open space. It is the overall intent of the HCA to wisely manage the conservation area and undertake supplementary management and operating plans and initiatives to support the goals and objectives of this Master Plan within the next ten years.

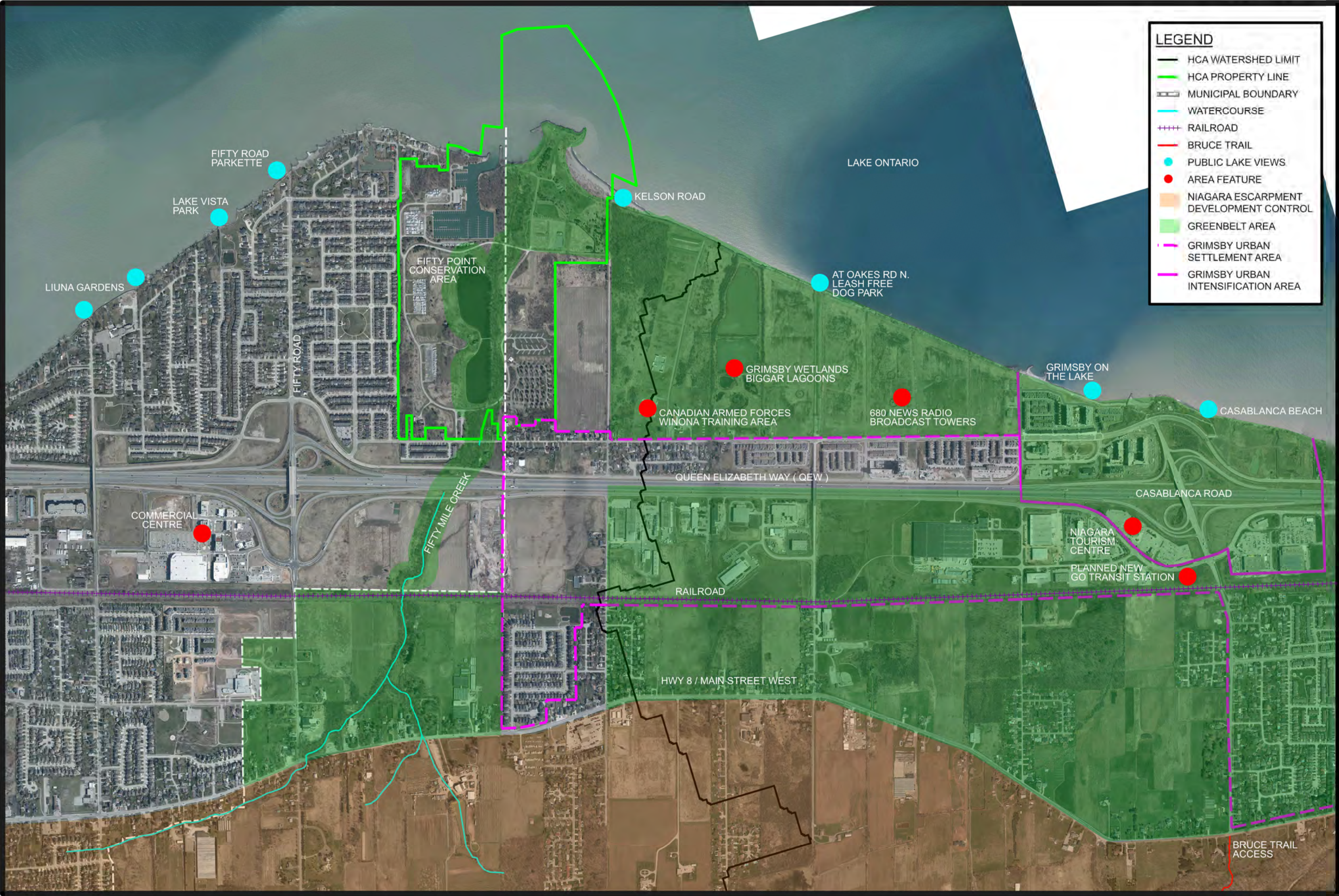


12.0 APPENDIX CONTENTS

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APPENDIX 1

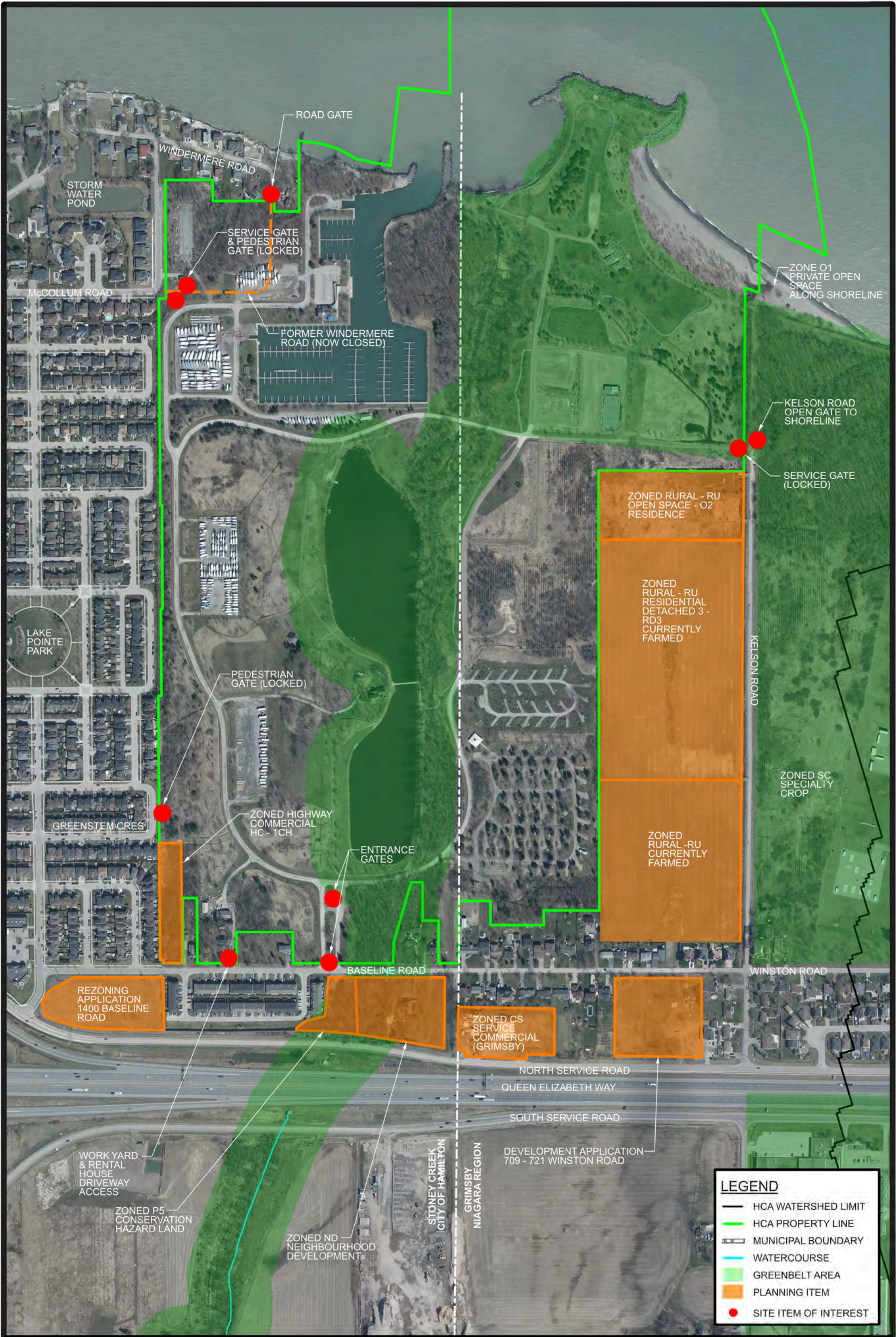
Figure 1	Context Map A
Figure 2	Context Map B
Map 1	Ecological Land Classification
Map 2	Conservation Area Zones
Map 3	Site Concept Map
Map 4	Campground
Map 5	Marina Activity Zone
Map 6	Building Map



LEGEND

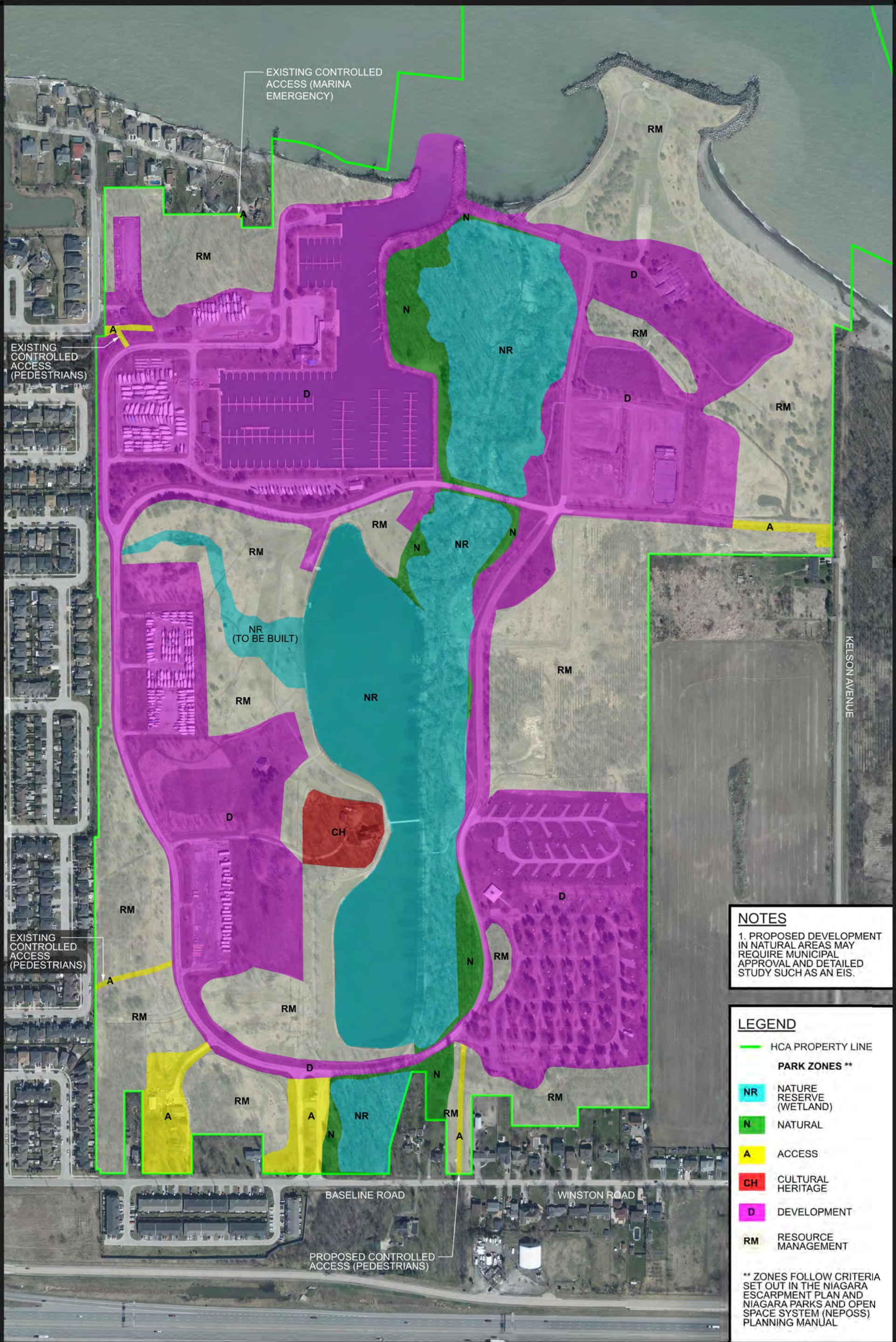
- HCA WATERSHED LIMIT
- HCA PROPERTY LINE
- MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY
- WATERCOURSE
- RAILROAD
- BRUCE TRAIL
- PUBLIC LAKE VIEWS
- AREA FEATURE
- NIAGARA ESCARPMENT DEVELOPMENT CONTROL
- GREENBELT AREA
- GRIMSBY URBAN SETTLEMENT AREA
- GRIMSBY URBAN INTENSIFICATION AREA

SITE CONTEXT MAP 'A'
FIFTY POINT MASTER PLAN



SITE CONTEXT MAP 'B' FIFTY POINT MASTER PLAN





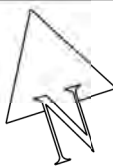
NOTES

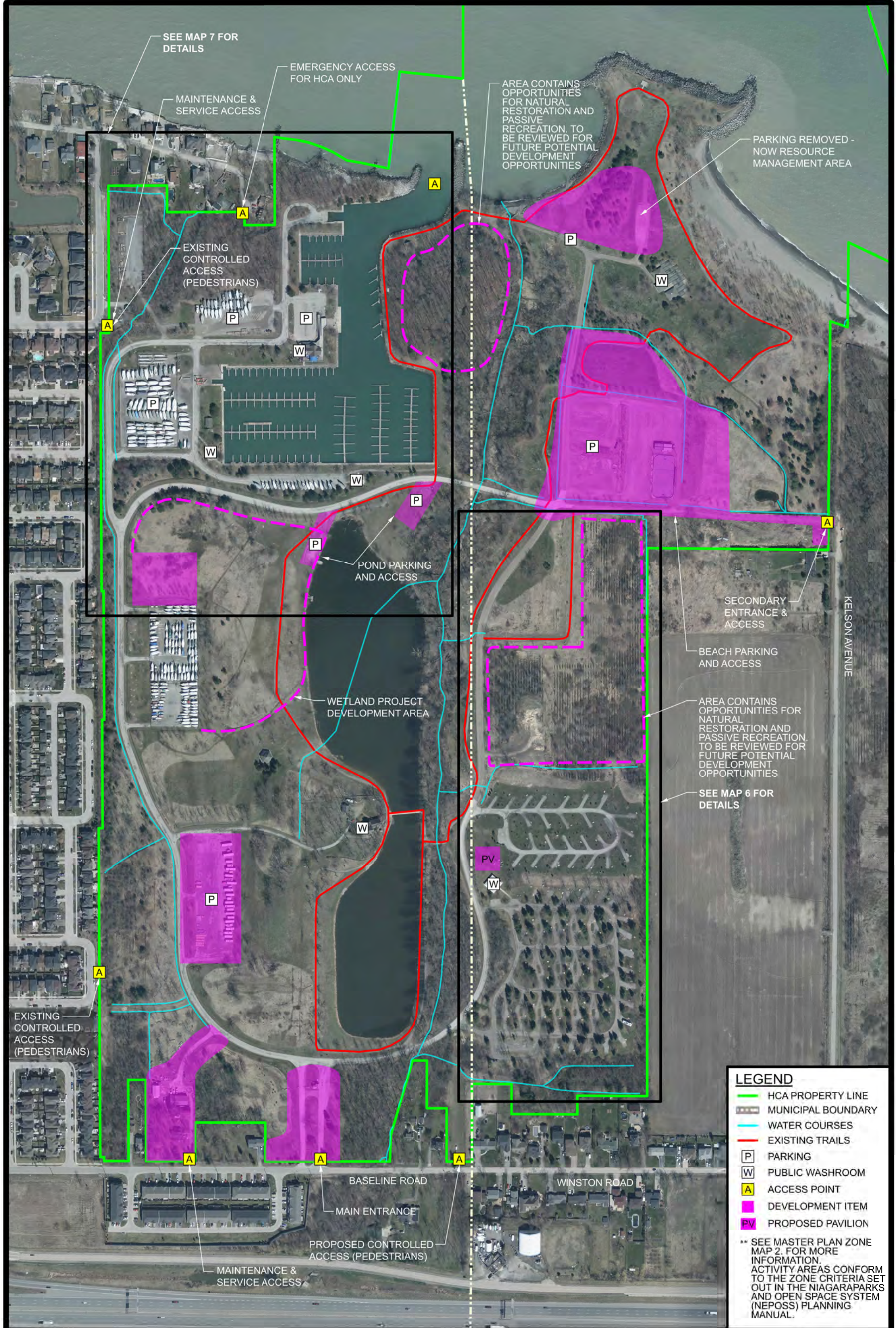
1. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT IN NATURAL AREAS MAY REQUIRE MUNICIPAL APPROVAL AND DETAILED STUDY SUCH AS AN EIS.

LEGEND

- HCA PROPERTY LINE
- PARK ZONES ****
- NR NATURE RESERVE (WETLAND)
- N NATURAL
- A ACCESS
- CH CULTURAL HERITAGE
- D DEVELOPMENT
- RM RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

** ZONES FOLLOW CRITERIA SET OUT IN THE NIAGARA ESCARPMENT PLAN AND NIAGARA PARKS AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEM (NEPOSS) PLANNING MANUAL





SITE CONCEPT MAP FIFTY POINT MASTER PLAN





AREA CONTAINS OPPORTUNITIES FOR NATURAL RESTORATION AND PASSIVE RECREATION. TO BE REVIEWED FOR FUTURE POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

GROUP CAMPING AREA (EXISTING MOWN AREA ONLY)

CAMPGROUND BUFFER WILL BE NEEDED UPON FUTURE DEVELOPMENT TO THE EAST

NEW PAVILION FOR CAMPGROUND

REVIEW WINTER STORAGE AREAS FOR OPTIMAL USE

REVIEW CAMPGROUND DESIGN AND LAYOUT FOR OPTIMAL SEASONAL USE. THIS LAYOUT EXISTING AT WRITING OF THIS PLAN.

LEGEND

EXISTING SEASONAL SITES

EXISTING OVERNIGHT SITES

HCA PROPERTY LINE

WATER COURSES

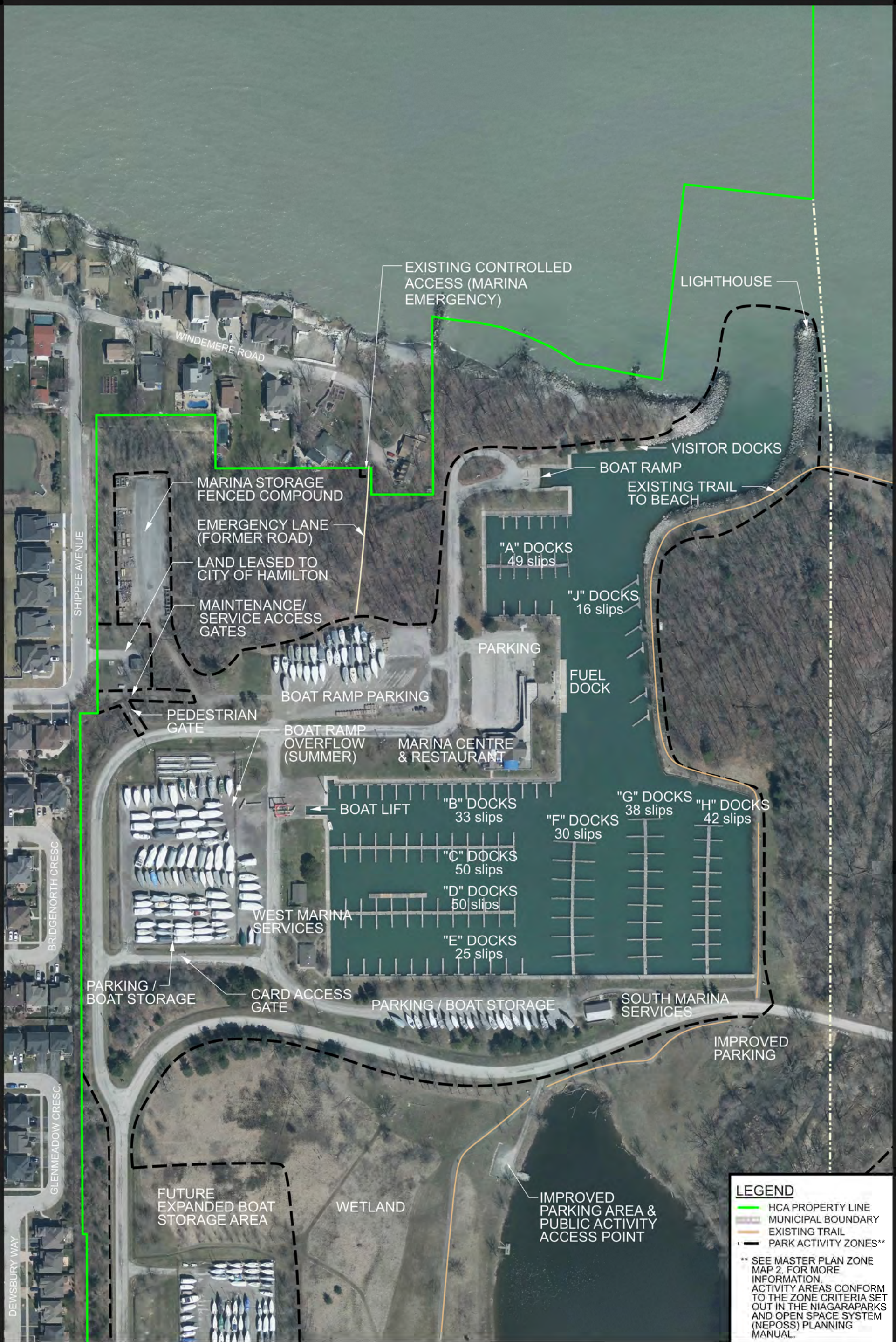
EXISTING TRAILS

WASHROOM

NEW PAVILION

WINTER STORAGE AREAS





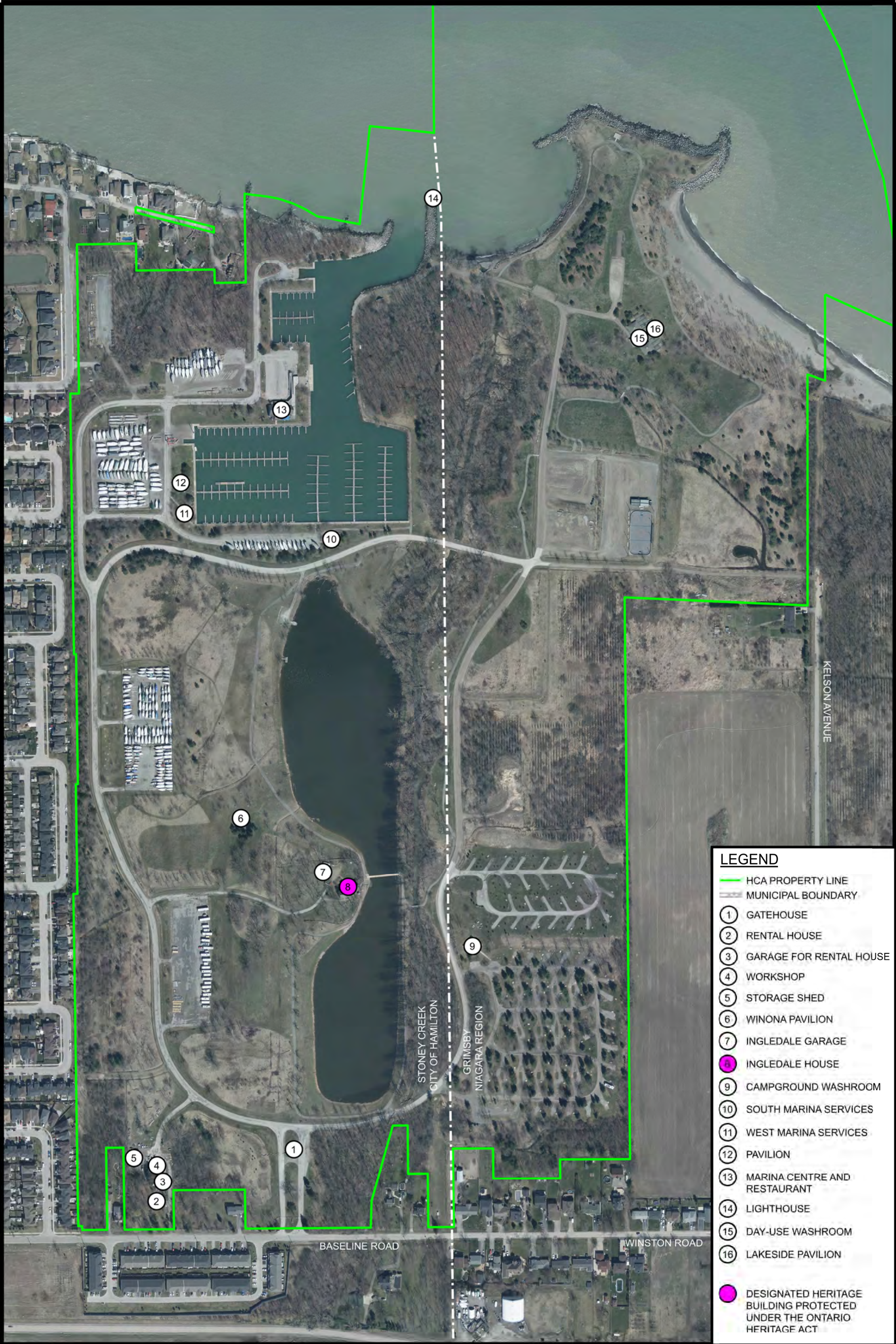
LEGEND

- HCA PROPERTY LINE
- MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY
- EXISTING TRAIL
- PARK ACTIVITY ZONES**

** SEE MASTER PLAN ZONE MAP 2. FOR MORE INFORMATION. ACTIVITY AREAS CONFORM TO THE ZONE CRITERIA SET OUT IN THE NIAGARAPARKS AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEM (NEPOSS) PLANNING MANUAL.

**MARINA AREA MAP
FIFTY POINT MASTER PLAN**





APPENDIX 2

DRAFT – FIFTY POINT CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES: 2022 - 2032**A. Site Concept Improvements** ***Budget (2.78 M)**

A1	Baseline Road Main Park Entrance, Secondary Public Access Point	300,000
A2	Baseline Road Staff / Service Entrance	350,000
A3	Kelson Road Secondary Entrance	250,000
A4	Passive Recreational Improvements	300,000
A5	Beach Area Parking Expansion, Restoration	300,000
A6	Ingledale/Winona Area Parking Enhancements	250,000
A7	Boat Storage Compound Additions	300,000
A8	Beach Washroom Enhancements	150,000
A9	Ingledale Area Washroom Improvements	50,000
A10	Fishing Pond Area Parking, Pond Access Improvements	150,000
A11	Beach Trail Access Improvements	30,000
A12	Kelson Road Allowance Buffer Enhancements	50,000
A13	Park Pavilion, Shade Structure Additions	150,000
A14	Campground Facility Improvements	150,000

B. Conservation Area Improvements ***Budget (6.325 M)**

B1	Perimeter and Security Fencing	100,000
B2	Perimeter Service Gates	25,000
B3	Perimeter Pedestrian Gates	25,000
B4	General Building Improvements	250,000
B5	Road, Parking, Bridge Improvements	750,000
B6	Site Signage	50,000
B7	Existing Trail Improvements	75,000
B8	Site Service Improvements	150,000
B9	Marina Dredging (3 estimated)	450,000
**B10	Marina Piling Extension and Expansion	1,000,000

Appendix 2.

**B11 Marina Boardwalk Replacement	500,000
**B12 Marina Dock Replacement, Reconfiguration	2,000,000
***B9 Natural Areas Restoration	100,000
***B10Resource Management Restoration	100,000
***B11Wetland Project, Pond Area Restoration	750,000

* Budget costs are in 2021 dollars, projects and budgets to be reviewed annually.

** Major capital item.

*** Costs subject to ecological findings and recommendations.

APPENDIX 3



Eight Guiding Principles in the Conservation of Built Heritage Properties

The following guiding principles are ministry statements in the conservation of built heritage properties and are based on international charters which have been established over the century. These principles provide the basis for all decisions concerning good practice in heritage conservation around the world. Principles explain the "why" of every conservation activity and apply to all heritage properties and their surroundings.

1. RESPECT FOR DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

Do not base restoration on conjecture.

Conservation work should be based on historic documentation such as historic photographs, drawings and physical evidence.

2. RESPECT FOR THE ORIGINAL LOCATION:

Do not move buildings unless there is no other means to save them.

Site is an integral component of a building or structure. Change in site diminishes cultural heritage value considerably.

3. RESPECT FOR HISTORIC MATERIAL:

Repair/conservé - rather than replace building materials and finishes, except where absolutely necessary.

Minimal intervention maintains the heritage content of the built resource.

4. RESPECT FOR ORIGINAL FABRIC:

Repair with like materials.

Repair to return the resource to its prior condition, without altering its integrity.

5. RESPECT FOR THE BUILDING'S HISTORY:

Do not restore to one period at the expense of another period.

Do not destroy later additions to a building or structure solely to restore to a single time period.

6. REVERSIBILITY:

Alterations should be able to be returned to original conditions. This conserves earlier building design and technique.

e.g. When a new door opening is put into a stone wall, the original stones are numbered, removed and stored, allowing for future restoration.

7. LEGIBILITY:

New work should be distinguishable from old.

Buildings or structures should be recognized as products of their own time, and new additions should not blur the distinction between old and new.

8. MAINTENANCE:

With continuous care, future restoration will not be necessary.

With regular upkeep, major conservation projects and their high costs can be avoided.

For more information, please call the Ministry of Culture at (416) 212-0644 or Toll Free at 1-866-454-0049 or refer to the website at www.culture.gov.on.ca.

Spring 2007

Disponible en français

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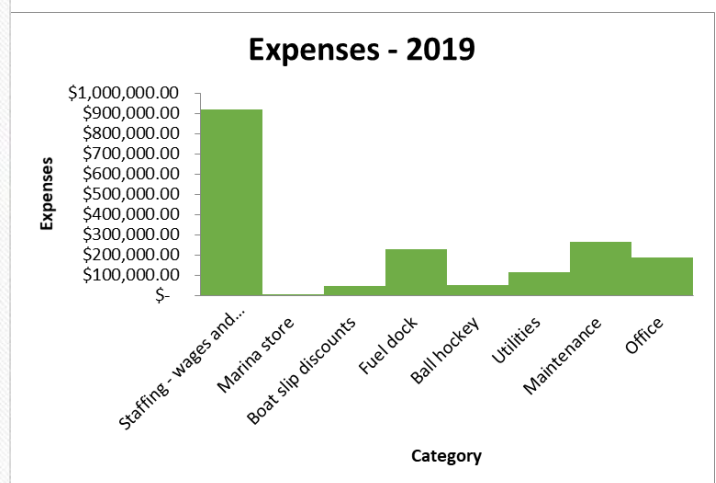
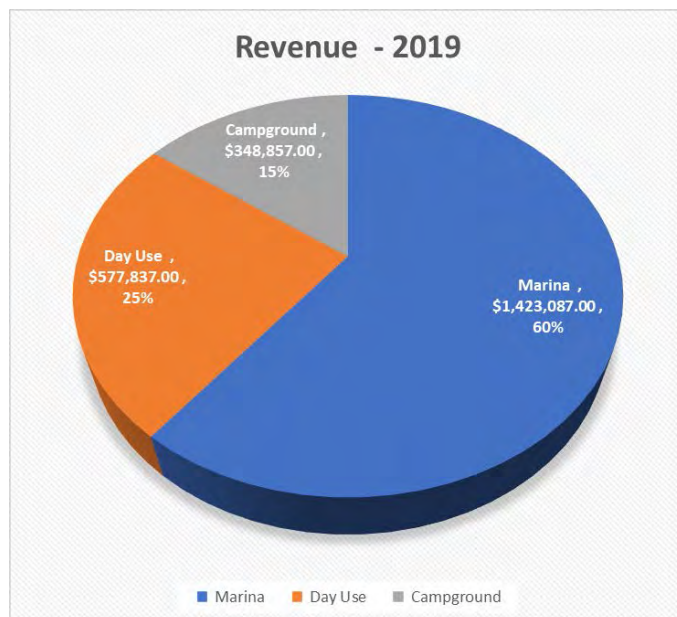
APPENDIX 4

Fifty Point Operation Revenue and Expenses January to December

Appendix 4

<u>Operation Revenue</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>% of Revenues</u> (2019 Pre-Pandemic)
Marina	\$ 1,251,503	\$ 1,423,087	60%
Day Use	\$ 820,776	\$ 577,837	25%
Campground	\$ 296,380	\$ 348,857	15%
Total Operation Revenue	\$ 2,368,659	\$ 2,349,781	

<u>Operation Expense</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>% of Expenses</u> (2019 Pre-Pandemic)
Staffing–Wages & Benefits	\$ 836,662	\$ 920,344	51 %
Marina Store	\$ 1,784	\$ 1,412	0.1%
Boat Slip Discounts	\$ 34,418	\$ 44,631	2.5%
Fuel Dock	\$ 176,169	\$ 226,319	12.5%
Ball Hockey	\$ 1,895	\$ 51,537	3 %
Utilities	\$ 173,882	\$ 111,825	6 %
Maintenance	\$ 256,173	\$ 262,464	14.5%
Office	\$ 196,124	\$ 185,540	10.4%
Total Operation Expense	\$ 1,667,107	\$ 1,804,072	
Total Net Income	\$ 691,552	\$ 545,709	

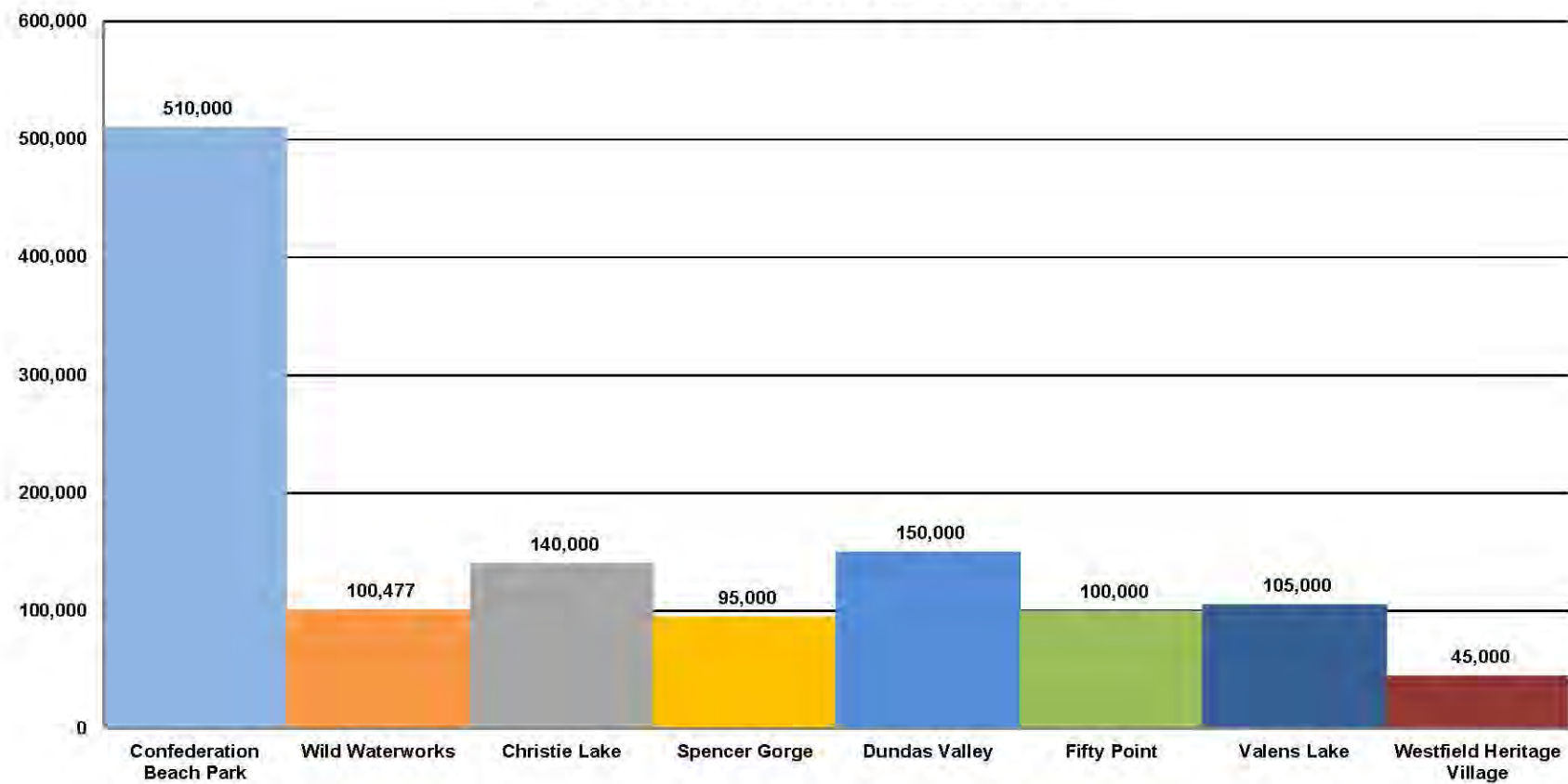


APPENDIX 5

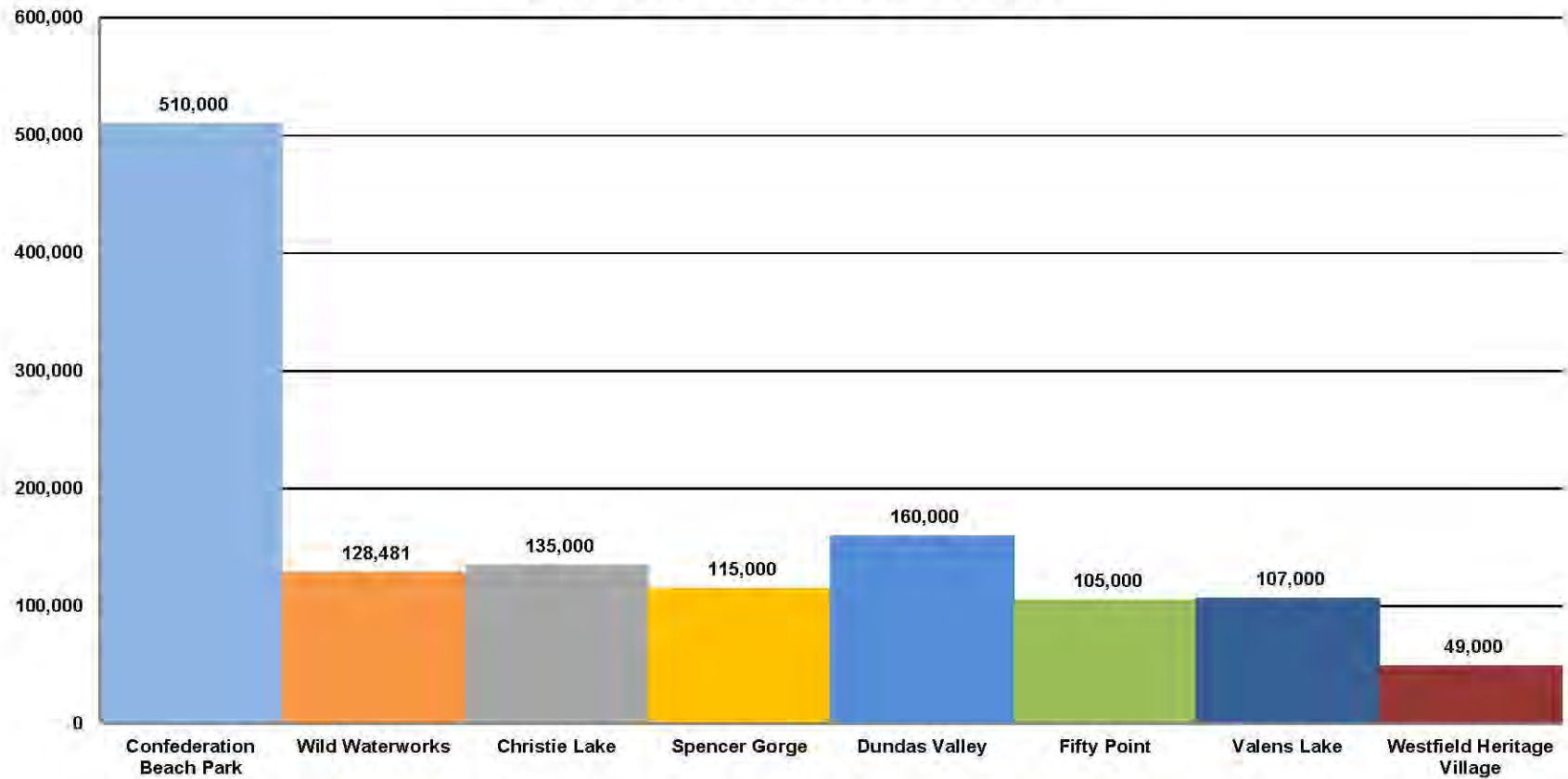
Visitor Data

Appendix 5.1	Attendance Stats 2017 to 2020
Appendix 5.2	Campground Survey Results
Appendix 5.3	Day Use Survey Results
Appendix 5.4	Marina Survey Results

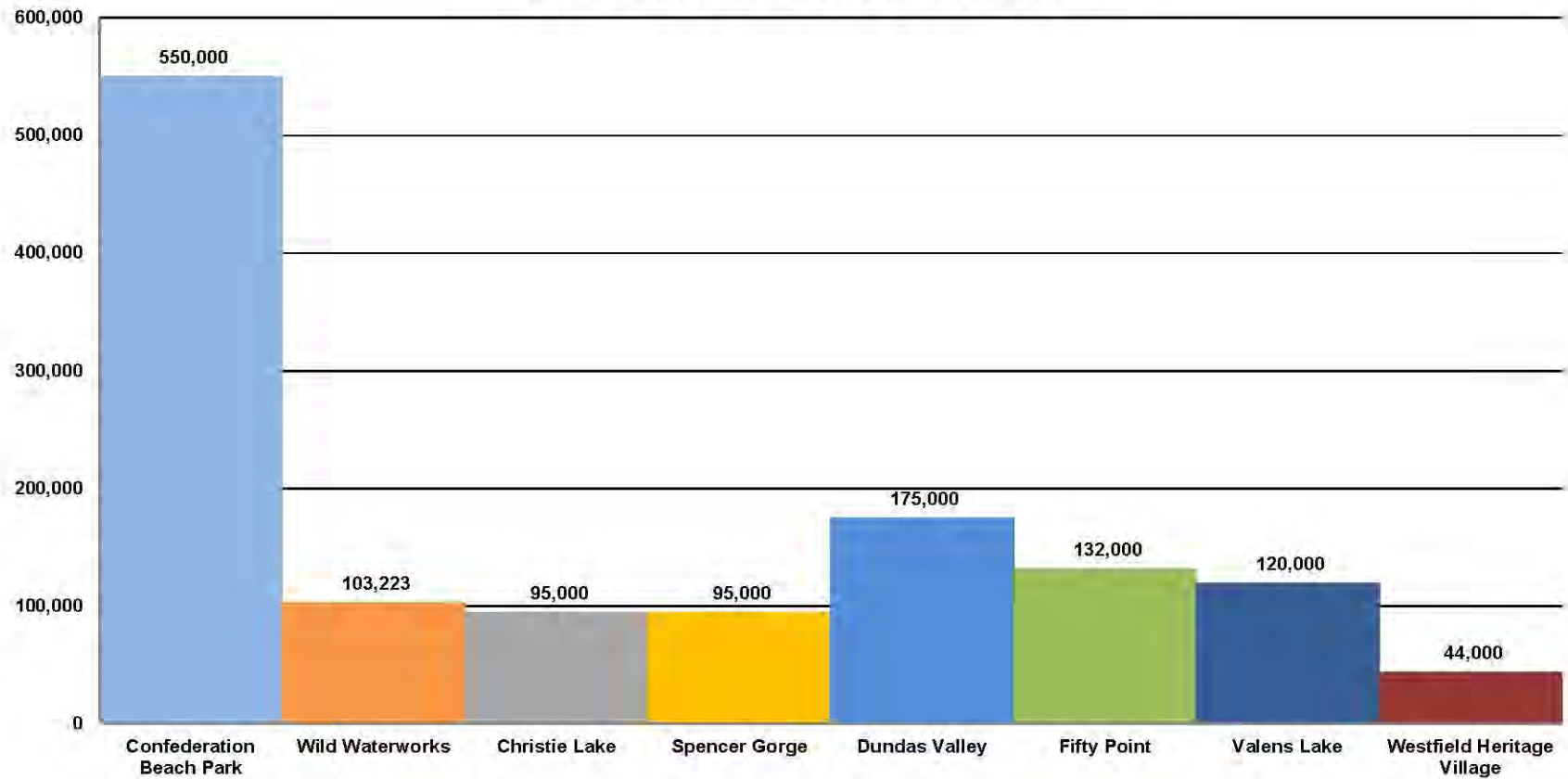
2017 Annual Attendance Estimate



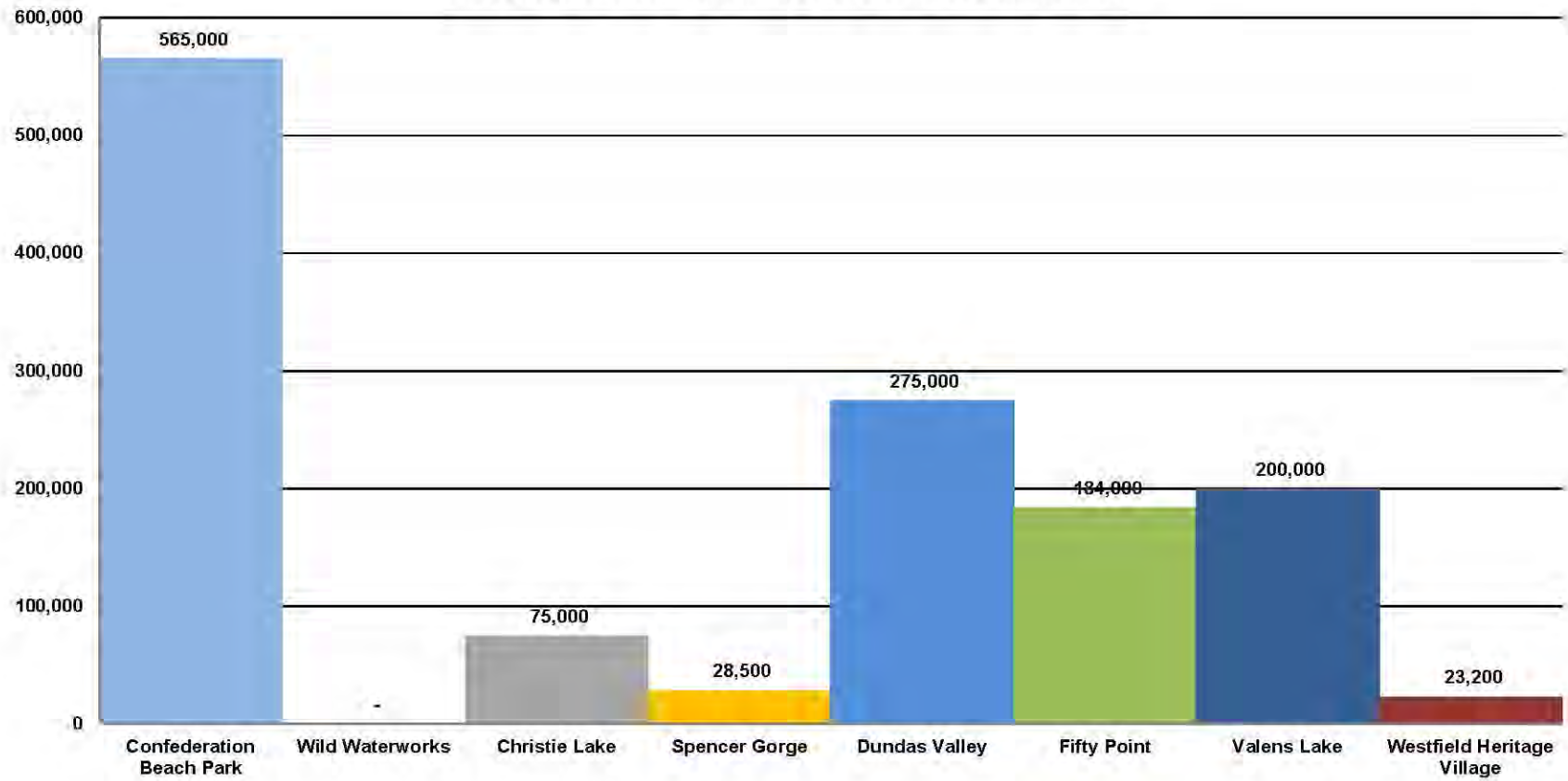
2018 Annual Attendance Estimate



2019 Annual Attendance Estimate

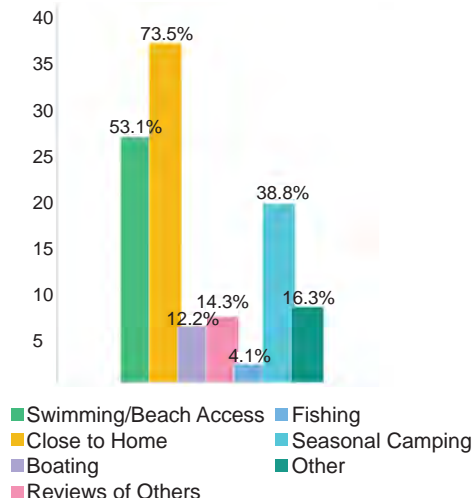


2020 DRAFT Annual Attendance Estimate

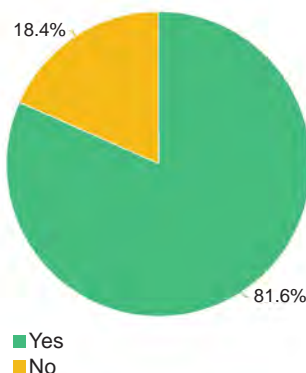


Campground Survey Results Summary

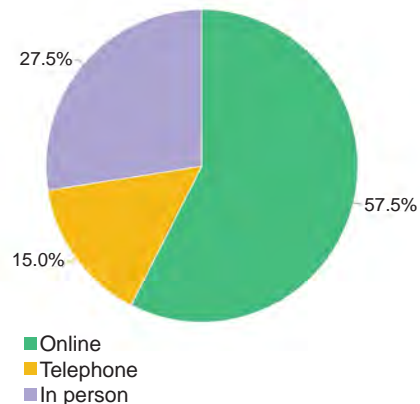
Why did you choose Fifty Point for your camping experience?



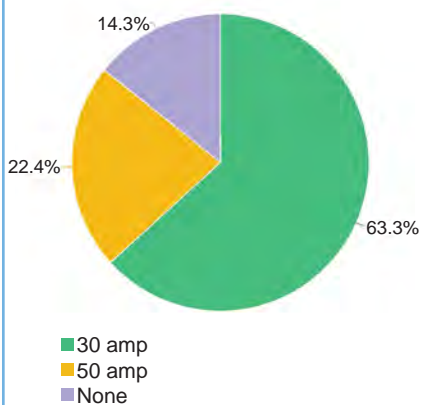
Did you reserve your campsite?



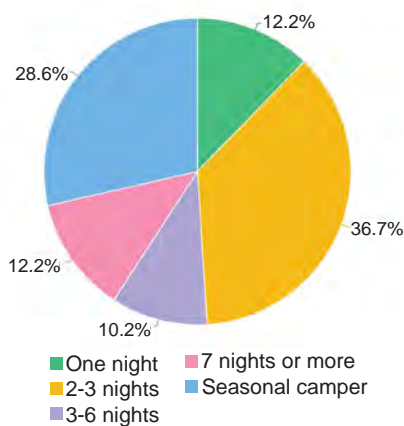
How did you reserve your campsite?



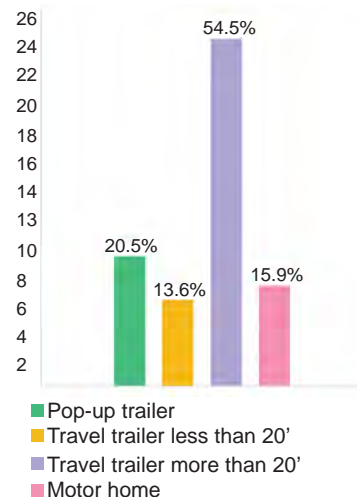
What site hookups did you use during your stay?



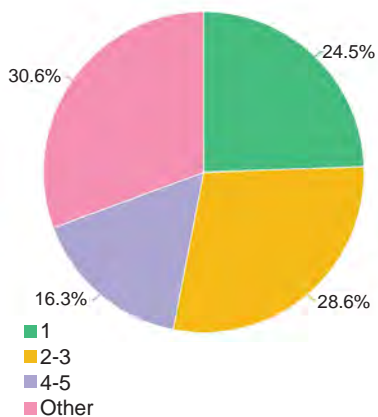
What is the length of your stay?



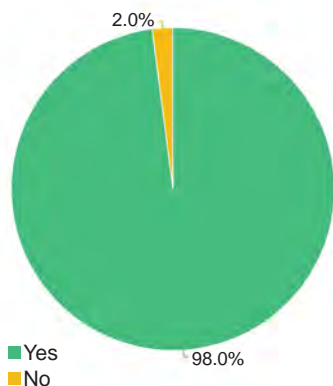
What equipment are you camping with?



How many times a year do you camp at Fifty Point?



Will you camp at Fifty Point again?



What was your favourite thing about camping at Fifty Point?

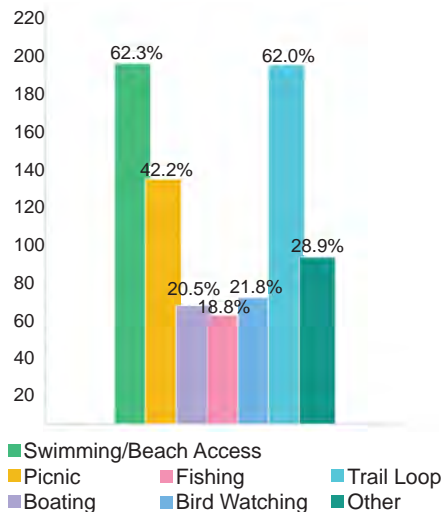
- Close to home
- Beach access
- Campsite size
- Easy access to boating
- Walking trails & being close to nature

What additional camping services would you like to see?

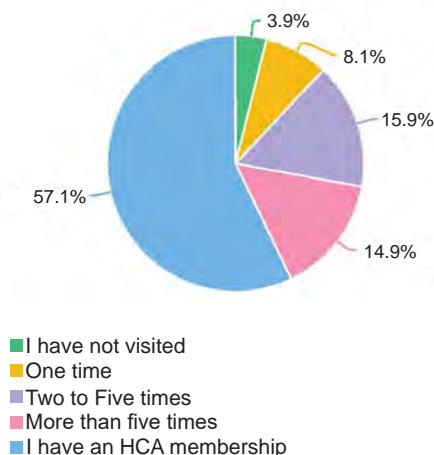
- Fire pits
- Tent camping
- Activities for kids
- More trees between sites
- More washroom facilities

Day Use Survey Results Summary

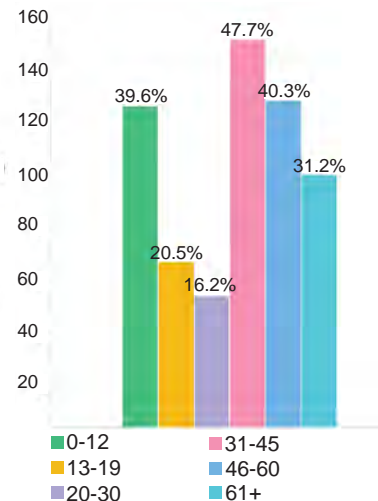
Why did you choose Fifty Point for your day use visit?



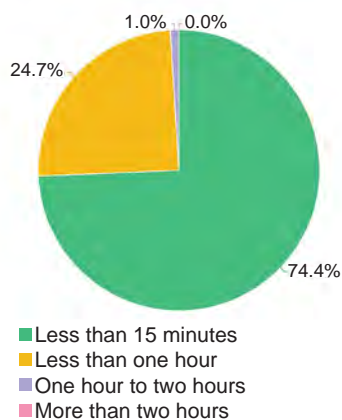
How many times have you visited Fifty Point in the last year?



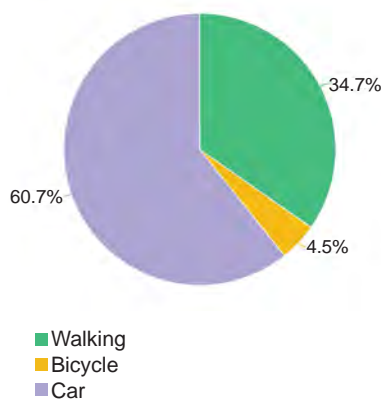
What age groups are included in your group when you visit?



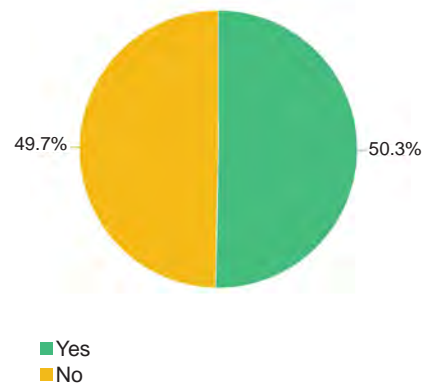
How long does it usually take you to get to Fifty Point?



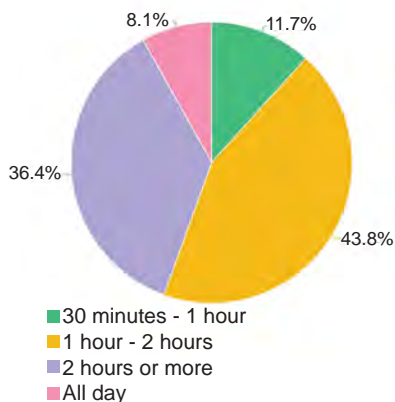
How do you usually get to Fifty Point?



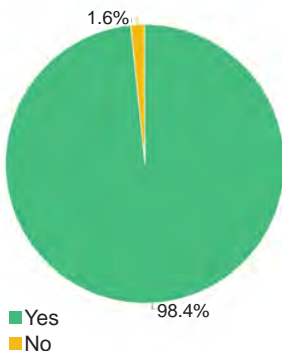
Have you shared your visit on social media?



When you visit, how long do you stay?



Will you come back to Fifty Point?



What was your favourite thing about your stay at Fifty Point?

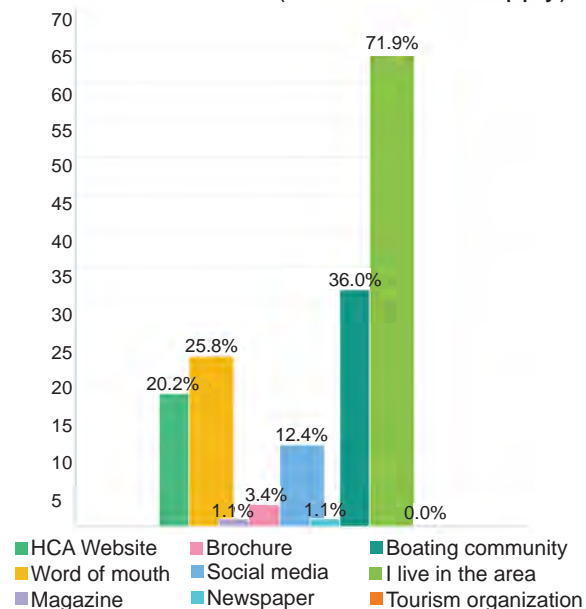
- The boat launch
- Beach access
- Scenic walking trails
- The dog beach
- Being able to walk to the park

What additional services would you like to see?

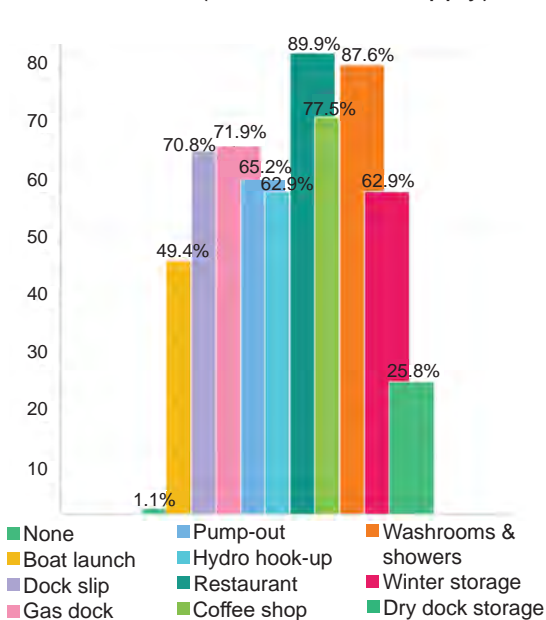
- More walking and bike trails
- Activities for kids
- Watercraft rentals
- A snack shack
- More washroom facilities

Marina Survey Results Summary

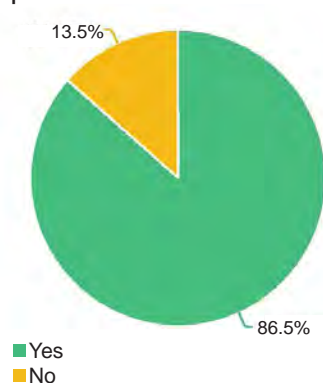
How did you learn about Fifty Point Conservation Area? (Choose all that apply)



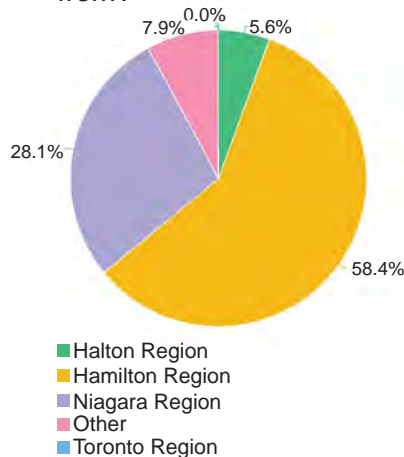
What amenities do you use at the Fifty Point marina? (Choose all that apply)



Are you an HCA Membership pass holder?



Where are you visiting from?



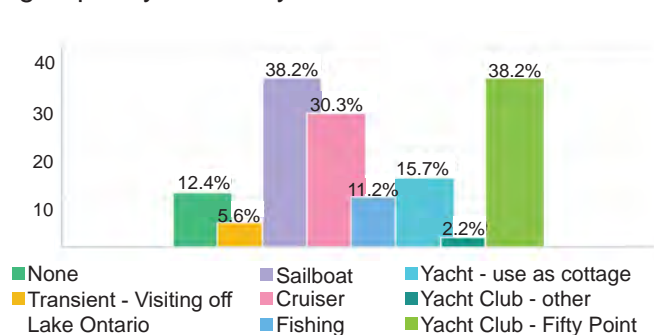
What do you tell family and friends about Fifty Point Marina?

- Beautiful setting
- A hidden gem
- Great staff
- Excellent restaurant
- Lot's of green space

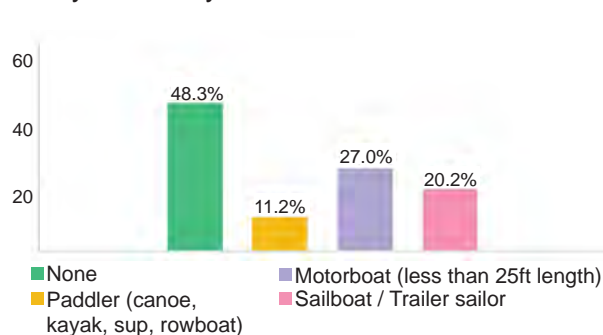
Is there a marina amenity you would like us to provide?

- A swimming pool
- More security
- More pavilions and comfort stations
- Storage for small watercraft
- Better WiFi service

What seasonal boating group do you identify with?



What visiting boating group do you identify with?



APPENDIX 6

6.7 Fifty Point Conservation Area

Fifty Point Conservation Area on Lake Ontario is an 80-hectare park with superb marina facilities in Stoney Creek. Recreational activities include swimming, picnicking, and family camping with 70 fully-serviced campsites. In addition there is a locally significant wetland located within the Conservation Area, a large pond as well as patches of remaining forest are used by migrating passerines and waterfowl.

Source: <https://conservationhamilton.ca/fifty-point/>

Managed Forest Summary

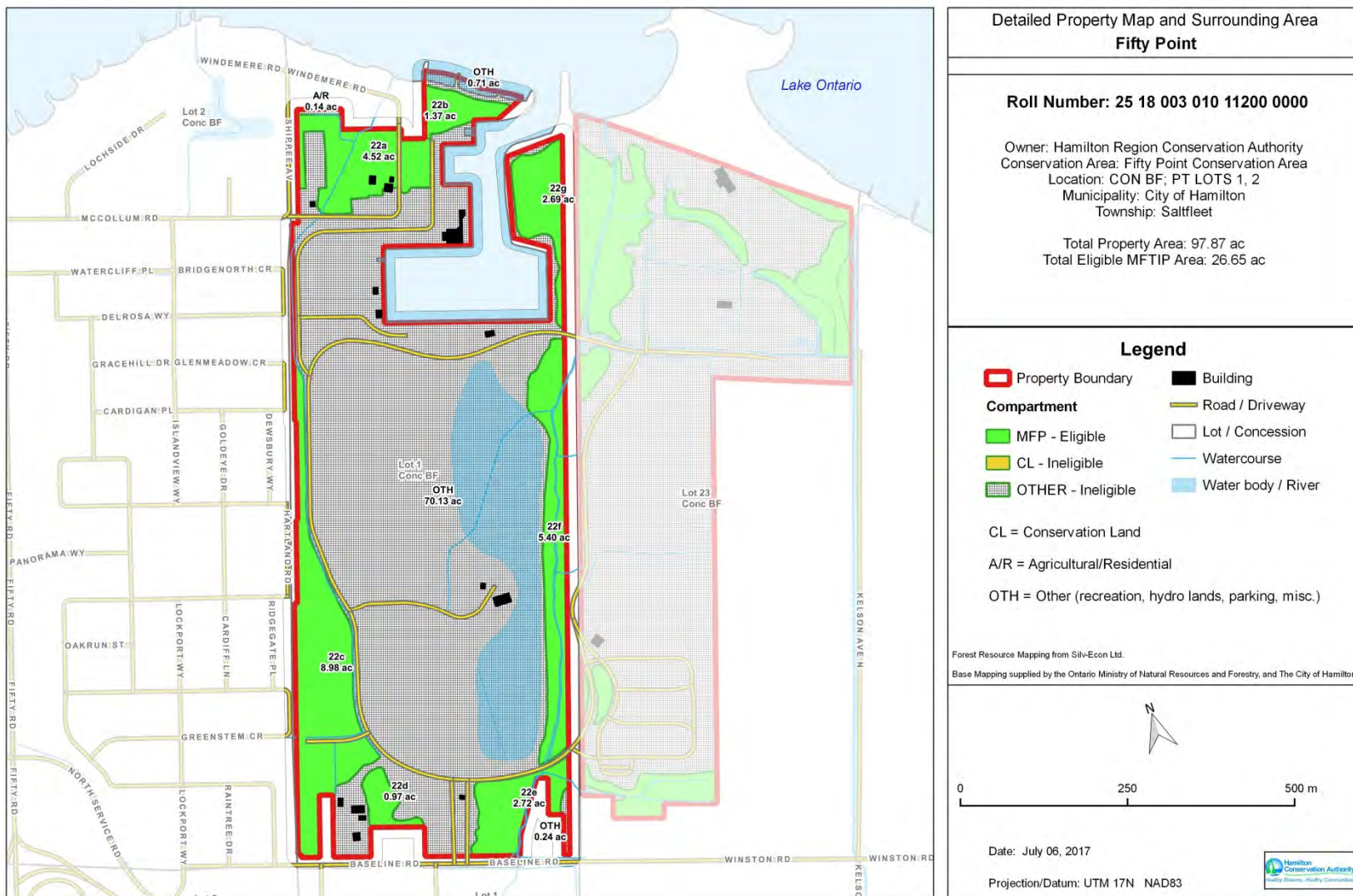
Roll Number (5-digit)	Forest Type 1	Area 1 (ac)	Forest Type 2	Area 2 (ac)	Forest Type 3	Area 3 (ac)	Total Area (ac)
11200	Upland Hardwoods	22.96	Lowland Hardwoods	3.69			26.65
08800	Upland Hardwoods	9.63	Mixed Plantation	2.26	Conifer Plantation	1.61	13.50

Other Vegetation Observed	Invasive Species Observed	Wildlife Habitat Features			
Red-osier dogwood Wild rose	Garlic mustard Buckthorn Manitoba maple	Snags	Cavities	Coarse Woody Debris	Mast Species
		Few	Few	Moderate	Hickory American beech Red oak White oak

Forest Inventory										
			Trees ≥ 10 cm DBH						Regeneration (advanced > 1m)	
Comp	Area (ac)	Forest Type	Species Composition ¹	Age (yrs)	Height (m)	Avg. DBH ² (cm)	Density (stems/ha)	Basal Area ³ (m ² /ha)	Species Composition	Density (stems/ha)
22a	4.52	Upland Hardwoods	Hi5 Ag2 Be1 Mr1 Or1 (Pa)	45	26	17	568	30	Ag10	5000
22b	1.37	Upland Hardwoods	Hi5 Ag2 Be1 Mr1 Or1 (Pa)	45	26	17	568	30	Ag10	5000
22c	8.98	Upland Hardwoods	Ag2 Or2 Po2 Ap1 (Mm Mn Ps Pw Sn)3	26	18	10	415	10.5	Ce7 Bt3	750
22d	0.97	Lowland Hardwoods	Ag4 El4 Bt1 Wn1	22	12	10	824	10	Bt8 Ag2	4000
22e	2.72	Lowland Hardwoods	Ag8 El1 Wi1	60	23	20	842	36	Mm10	1000
22f	5.40	Upland Hardwoods	Or6 lw3 Ag1 (Po)	65	23	24	1093	44	Cb10	2000
22g	2.69	Upland Hardwoods	Or6 lw3 Ag1 (Po)	65	23	24	1093	44	Cb10	2000
27a	0.62	Upland Hardwoods	Or6 Ag1 Cb1 lw1 Ow1	65	32	25	424	34	Ag7 Mr3	3000
27b	5.70	Upland Hardwoods	Or6 lw2 Ag1 Cb1 (Ow Po)	65	26	24	758	39	Cb4 Ag4 Mr2	2500
27c	0.83	Mixed Plantation	Pw8 Mm2	20	16	5	564	12	none	0
27d	0.62	Upland Hardwoods	Mm10	20	5	28	32	2	none	0
27e	1.61	Conifer Plantation	Pw8 Mm2	20	16	5	564	12	none	0

Forest Inventory										
			Trees ≥ 10 cm DBH						Regeneration (advanced > 1m)	
Comp	Area (ac)	Forest Type	Species Composition ¹	Age (yrs)	Height (m)	Avg. DBH ² (cm)	Density (stems/ha)	Basal Area ³ (m ² /ha)	Species Composition	Density (stems/ha)
27f	1.02	Mixed Plantation	Pw6 Wn3 Lh1 (Mn)	22	18	8	818	21	none	0
27g	0.41	Mixed Plantation	Pw5 Wn4 Lh1	25	19	12	1072	30	none	0
27h (2)	0.57	Upland Hardwoods	Or6 lw3 Ag1 (Po)	43	16	23	729	29	Cb10	1333
27i	2.12	Upland Hardwoods	Ag7 Ce2 El1 (Wi)	40	13	23	561	24	Mm10	667

Detailed Property Maps



HAMILTON CONSERVATION AUTHORITY MANAGED FOREST PLAN



Detailed Property Map and Surrounding Area Fifty Point

Roll Number: 26 15 020 022 08800 0000

Owner: Hamilton Region Conservation Authority
 Conservation Area: Fifty Point Conservation Area
 Location: CON BF; PT LOT 23
 Municipality: Niagara Region
 Township: Grimsby

Total Property Area: 64.84 ac
 Total Eligible MFTIP Area: 13.50 ac

Legend

- Property Boundary
- Building
- Compartment**
- MFP - Eligible
- CL - Ineligible
- OTHER - Ineligible
- Road / Driveway
- Lot / Concession
- Watercourse
- Water body / River

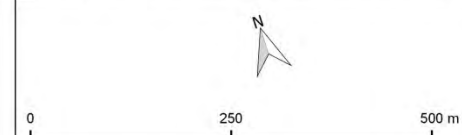
CL = Conservation Land

A/R = Agricultural/Residential

OTH = Other (recreation, hydro lands, parking, misc.)

Forest Resource Mapping from Silv-Econ Ltd.

Base Mapping supplied by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, and The City of Hamilton



Date: July 06, 2017

Projection/Datum: UTM 17N NAD83



Section 7 : Ten Year Activity Summary 2018-2027

The following management activities are recommended for the 2018-2027 operating period.

Forest Health & Ecological Diversity

Control Invasive plants

- The Ontario Invasive Plant Council recommends creating a feasible, long-term strategy for managing invasive species. Many of the managed forest compartments have been colonized by buckthorn and other invasive plant species. Buckthorn is particularly problematic because it is the dominant species in the regeneration of a number of the compartments. Managing the buckthorn is an important silvicultural objective in maintaining a healthy and productive forest.

Manage Red Pine Decline

- A number of the red pine plantations are declining as a result of root diseases. The HCA has been thinning these plantations to mitigate the effects of the decline in the overstory and promote natural regeneration. Many of the plantations also lack desirable regeneration and some are heavily colonized by buckthorn. Controlling the buckthorn and restoring regeneration through underplanting is highly recommended.

Monitor Invasive Insects

- Many, if not all, of the mature ash in the managed forest have been affected by Emerald Ash Borer. Fortunately ash is commonly found in the regeneration of many stands and it is unlikely that ash species will disappear from the managed forest.
- Hemlock stands are at risk from Hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA). Hemlock is dominant/co-dominant in Fletcher compartment 1f and Beverly Swamp compartment 4b and is a minor species in several other compartments. These stands should be monitored for signs of HWA and report infected stands to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). Silv-Econ is coordinating a working group of forest managers/owners who have hemlock stands on their properties. The HCA may wish to participate in this working group.

Wildlife & Nature Appreciation

Conserve Habitat Features

- Wildlife habitats can be conserved or enhanced by retaining snags, fallen trees and logs, and trees with cavities.
- Mitigating the impacts from management activities on Species At Risk and other wildlife may require modifications to conventional silvicultural activities, establishing buffers around critical habitat, and seasonal restrictions for undertaking management activities, among other mitigation measures.

Recreation

- There is an extensive network of recreational trails throughout most of the managed forest. Maintaining the trails by trimming vegetation, removing fallen logs and hazard trees, and making repairs when required is recommended.

Forest Products

- A second thinning of the conifer plantations at Christie, Dundas Valley, Mt. Albion, Valens, and Westfield Heritage Village can be considered during the 2018-2027 operating period.
- There are approximately 115 acres of conifer plantations at Fletcher Creek that could also be considered for thinning during the 2018-2027 operating period.

Section 11 : Tree Species & Species Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Species	Abbreviation	Species
Ag	green ash	Mst	Striped maple
Ap	apple	Nb	Nannyberry
Aw	white ash	Ob	bur oak
Bd	basswood	OC	other conifers
Be	American beech	OH	other hardwood
Bf	balsam fir	Or	red oak
Bn	butternut	Ow	white oak
Bt	European buckthorn	Pa	Austrian pine
Bw	white birch	Pb	balsam poplar
By	yellow birch	Pg	large tooth aspen
Cb	black cherry	Ph	hybrid poplar
Cc	choke cherry	Pj	jack pine
Ce	white cedar	Po	poplar species
El	elm	Pr	red pine
Ha	hawthorn	Ps	Scots pine
Hac	hackberry	Pt	trembling aspen
He	eastern hemlock	Pw	white pine
Hi	bitternut hickory	Sas	sassafras
Hs	shagbark hickory	Sb	black spruce
Iw	ironwood	Sc	blue spruce
La	European larch	Sn	Norway spruce
Lb	black locust	Sw	white spruce
Lh	Honey locust	Syc	American sycamore
Mash	mountain ash	Ta	tamarack
Mb	black maple	Tu	tulip tree
Mh	sugar maple	Wi	willow
Mm	Manitoba maple	Wn	black walnut
Mr	red maple		
Ms	silver maple		

APPENDIX 7

Appendix 7.1	Breeding Birds
Appendix 7.2	Spring Migratory Birds
Appendix 7.3	Butterflies
Appendix 7.4	Dragonflies and Damselflies
Appendix 7.5	Herpetofauna
Appendix 7.6	Plants

Breeding Birds						
ELC 2020	BBS 2021-1	BBS 2021-2	eBird 2017-2021	Species Code	OFO Scientific Name	OFO Common Name
X			x	B-AMCR	Corvus brachyrhynchos	American Crow
X	x	x	x	B-AMGO	Spinus tristis	American Goldfinch
			x	B-AMKE	Falco sparverius	American Kestrel
X	x	x	x	B-AMRO	Turdus migratorius	American Robin
X	x	x	x	B-BAOR	Icterus galbula	Baltimore Oriole
X+ nest	x	x	x	B-BARS	Hirundo rustica	Barn Swallow
X	x	x	x	B-BEKL	Megaceryle alcyon	Belted Kingfisher
X	x	x	x	B-BCCH	Poecile atricapillus	Black-capped Chickadee
	x		x	B-BTBW	Setophaga caerulescens	Black-throated Blue Warbler
X	x	x	x	B-BLJA	Cyanocitta cristata	Blue Jay
	x - nest	x	x	B-BGGN	Polioptila caerulea	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
	X		x	B-BRCR	Certhia americana	Brown Creeper
	x		x	B-BRTH	Toxostoma rufum	Brown Thrasher
X			x	B-BHCO	Molothrus ater	Brown-headed Cowbird
X	x	x	x	B-CAGO	Branta canadensis	Canada Goose
X			x	B-CARW	Thryothorus ludovicianus	Carolina Wren
X			x	B-CATE	Hydroprogne caspia	Caspian Tern
X	x	x	x	B-CEDW	Bombycilla cedrorum	Cedar Waxwing
X			x	B-CHSP	Spizella passerina	Chipping Sparrow
		x	x	B-COGR	Quiscalus quiscula	Common Grackle
X			x	B-CORA	Corvus corax	Common Raven
X			x	B-COTE	Sterna hirundo	Common Tern
	x		x	B-COYE	Geothlypis trichas	Common Yellowthroat
X	x		x	B-DOWO	Dryobates pubescens	Downy Woodpecker
	x	x	x	B-EAKI	Tyrannus tyrannus	Eastern Kingbird
X	x	x	x	B-EAWP	Contopus virens	Eastern Wood-Pewee
X		x	x	B-EUST	Sturnus vulgaris	European Starling
X	x		x	B-GRCA	Dumetella carolinensis	Gray Catbird
X	x		x	B-GCFL	Myiarchus crinitus	Great Crested Flycatcher
	X		x	B-GHOW	Bubo virginianus	Great Horned Owl
X	x	x	x	B-GRHE	Butorides virescens	Green Heron

Breeding Birds						
ELC 2020	BBS 2021-1	BBS 2021-2	eBird 2017-2021	Species Code	OFO Scientific Name	OFO Common Name
X			x	B-HAWO	Dryobates villosus	Hairy Woodpecker
X+ nest	x	x	x	B-HOSP	Passer domesticus	House Sparrow
X	x	x	x	B-HOWR	Troglodytes aedon	House Wren
		x	x	B-INBU	Passerina cyanea	Indigo Bunting
X	x	x	x	B-KILL	Charadrius vociferus	Killdeer
		x	x	B-LEFL	Empidonax minimus	Least Flycatcher
X	x		x	B-MALL	Anas platyrhynchos	Mallard
X	x	x	x	B-MODO	Zenaida macroura	Mourning Dove
X	x	x	x	B-NOCA	Cardinalis cardinalis	Northern Cardinal
X	x	x	x	B-NOFL	Colaptes auratus	Northern Flicker
X		x	x	B-RBWO	Melanerpes carolinus	Red-bellied Woodpecker
	x	x	x	B-REVI	Vireo olivaceus	Red-eyed Vireo
X	x		x	B-RTHA	Buteo jamaicensis	Red-tailed Hawk
	x	x	x	B-RWBL	Agelaius phoeniceus	Red-winged Blackbird
X + nest		x	x	B-RBGR	Pheucticus ludovicianus	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
X			x	B-RTHU	Archilochus colubris	Ruby-throated Hummingbird
	x	x	x	B-SOSP	Melospiza melodia	Song Sparrow
X+ nest	x	x	x	B-TRES	Tachycineta bicolor	Tree Swallow
X	x	x	x	B-WAVI	Vireo gilvus	Warbling Vireo
X			x	B-WBNU	Sitta carolinensis	White-breasted Nuthatch
	x		x	B-WIFL	Empidonax traillii	Willow Flycatcher
	X		x	B-WODU	Aix sponsa	Wood Duck
X	x	x	x	B-YWAR	Setophaga petechia	Yellow Warbler

Spring Migratory Birds				
HCA staff	eBird 2017-2021	Species Code	OFO Scientific Name	OFO Common Name
X		B-AMCR	Corvus brachyrhynchos	American Crow
X		B-AMGO	Spinus tristis	American Goldfinch
x		B-AMKE	Falco sparverius	American Kestrel
x		B-AMRE	Setophaga ruticilla	American Redstart
X		B-AMRO	Turdus migratorius	American Robin
X		B-BAOR	Icterus galbula	Baltimore Oriole
X		B-BARS	Hirundo rustica	Barn Swallow
x		B-BBWA	Setophaga castanea	Bay-breasted Warbler
X		B-BEKI	Megaceryle alcyon	Belted Kingfisher
x		B-BAWW	Mniotilta varia	Black-and-white Warbler
x		B-BLBW	Setophaga fusca	Blackburnian Warbler
X		B-BCCH	Poecile atricapillus	Black-capped Chickadee
x		B-BLPW	Setophaga striata	Blackpoll Warbler
x		B-BTBW	Setophaga caerulescens	Black-throated Blue Warbler
x		B-BTGW	Setophaga virens	Black-throated Green Warbler
X		B-BLJA	Cyanocitta cristata	Blue Jay
x		B-BGGN	Poliptila caerulea	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
x		B-BHVI	Vireo solitarius	Blue-headed Vireo
x		B-BOBO	Dolichonyx oryzivorus	Bobolink
x		B-BRCR	Certhia americana	Brown Creeper
x		B-BRTH	Toxostoma rufum	Brown Thrasher
X		B-BHCO	Molothrus ater	Brown-headed Cowbird
x		B-BUFF	Bucephala albeola	Bufflehead
X		B-CAGO	Branta canadensis	Canada Goose
x		B-CAWA	Cardellina canadensis	Canada Warbler
x		B-CMWA	Setophaga tigrina	Cape May Warbler
X		B-CARW	Thryothorus ludovicianus	Carolina Wren
X		B-CATE	Hydroprogne caspia	Caspian Tern
X		B-CEDW	Bombycilla cedrorum	Cedar Waxwing
x		B-CSWA	Setophaga pensylvanica	Chestnut-sided Warbler
X		B-CHSP	Spizella passerina	Chipping Sparrow
x		B-COGR	Quiscalus quiscula	Common Grackle
X		B-COTE	Sterna hirundo	Common Tern
x		B-COYE	Geothlypis trichas	Common Yellowthroat

Spring Migratory Birds				
HCA staff	eBird 2017-2021	Species Code	OFO Scientific Name	OFO Common Name
x		B-DEJU	Junco hyemalis	Dark-eyed Junco
X		B-DCCO	Phalacrocorax auritus	Double-crested Cormorant
X		B-DOWO	Dryobates pubescens	Downy Woodpecker
x		B-EAKI	Tyrannus tyrannus	Eastern Kingbird
x		B-EAME	Sturnella magna	Eastern Meadowlark
x		B-EAPH	Sayornis phoebe	Eastern Phoebe
x		B-EATO	Pipilo erythrophthalmus	Eastern Towhee
X		B-EAWP	Contopus virens	Eastern Wood-Pewee
X		B-EUST	Sturnus vulgaris	European Starling
x		B-FISP	Spizella pusilla	Field Sparrow
x		B-FOSP	Passerella iliaca	Fox Sparrow
X		B-GRCA	Dumetella carolinensis	Gray Catbird
x		B-GBHE	Ardea herodias	Great Blue Heron
X		B-GCFL	Myiarchus crinitus	Great Crested Flycatcher
x		B-GREG	Ardea alba	Great Egret
X		B-GRHE	Butorides virescens	Green Heron
X		B-HAWO	Dryobates villosus	Hairy Woodpecker
x		B-HETH	Catharus guttatus	Hermit Thrush
x		B-HOME	Lophodytes cucullatus	Hooded Merganser
x		B-HOFI	Haemorhous mexicanus	House Finch
X		B-HOSP	Passer domesticus	House Sparrow
X		B-HOWR	Troglodytes aedon	House Wren
x		B-INBU	Passerina cyanea	Indigo Bunting
X		B-KILL	Charadrius vociferus	Killdeer
x		B-LEFL	Empidonax minimus	Least Flycatcher
x		B-MAWA	Setophaga magnolia	Magnolia Warbler
X		B-MALL	Anas platyrhynchos	Mallard
X		B-MODO	Zenaida macroura	Mourning Dove
x		B-NAWA	Oreothlypis ruficapilla	Nashville Warbler
X		B-NOFL	Colaptes auratus	Northern Flicker
x		B-NOPA	Setophaga americana	Northern Parula
x		B-NRWS	Stelgidopteryx serripennis	Northern Rough-winged Swallow
x		B-OSPR	Pandion haliaetus	Osprey
x		B-OVEN	Seiurus aurocapilla	Ovenbird

Spring Migratory Birds				
HCA staff	eBird 2017-2021	Species Code	OFO Scientific Name	OFO Common Name
x		B-PAWA	Setophaga palmarum	Palm Warbler
x		B-PHVI	Vireo philadelphicus	Philadelphia Vireo
x		B-PBGR	Podilymbus podiceps	Pied-billed Grebe
x		B-PISI	Spinus pinus	Pine Siskin
x		B-PIWA	Setophaga pinus	Pine Warbler
X		B-PUFI	Haemorhous purpureus	Purple Finch
X		B-RBWO	Melanerpes carolinus	Red-bellied Woodpecker
x		B-RBNU	Sitta canadensis	Red-breasted Nuthatch
x		B-REVI	Vireo olivaceus	Red-eyed Vireo
x		B-RHWO	Melanerpes erythrocephalus	Red-headed Woodpecker
x		B-RWBL	Agelaius phoeniceus	Red-winged Blackbird
x		B-RNDU	Aythya collaris	Ring-necked Duck
X		B-RBGR	Pheucticus ludovicianus	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
X		B-RCKI	Regulus calendula	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
X		B-RTHU	Archilochus colubris	Ruby-throated Hummingbird
x		B-RUBL	Euphagus carolinus	Rusty Blackbird
x		B-SAVS	Passerculus sandwichensis	Savannah Sparrow
x		B-SCTA	Piranga olivacea	Scarlet Tanager
x		B-SSHA	Accipiter striatus	Sharp-shinned Hawk
x		B-SOSP	Melospiza melodia	Song Sparrow
x		B-SWTH	Catharus ustulatus	Swainson's thrush
x		B-TEWA	Oreothlypis peregrina	Tennessee Warbler
X		B-TRES	Tachycineta bicolor	Tree Swallow
x		B-TRUS	Cygnus buccinator	Trumpeter Swan
x		B-TUVU	Cathartes aura	Turkey Vulture
x		B-VEER	Catharus fuscescens	Veery
X		B-WAVI	Vireo gilvus	Warbling Vireo
X		B-WBNU	Sitta carolinensis	White-breasted Nuthatch
x		B-WCSP	Zonotrichia leucophrys	White-crowned Sparrow
x		B-WTSP	Zonotrichia albicollis	White-throated Sparrow
x		B-WIFL	Empidonax traillii	Willow Flycatcher
x		B-WIWR	Troglodytes hiemalis	Winter Wren
x		B-WODU	Aix sponsa	Wood Duck
x		B-WOTH	Hylocichla mustelina	Wood Thrush

Spring Migratory Birds				
HCA staff	eBird 2017-2021	Species Code	OFO Scientific Name	OFO Common Name
X		B-YWAR	Setophaga petechia	Yellow Warbler
x		B-YBSA	Sphyrapicus varius	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
x		B-YRWA	Setophaga coronata	Yellow-rumped Warbler
	x	B-BANS	Riparia riparia	Bank Swallow
	x	B-CHSW	Chaetura pelagica	Chimney Swift
	x	B-CCSP	Spizella pallida	Clay-colored Sparrow
	x	B-CLSW	Petrochelidon pyrrhonota	Cliff Swallow
	x	B-CONI	Chordeiles minor	Common Nighthawk
	x	B-EABL	Sialia sialis	Eastern Bluebird
	x	B-WPWI	Antrostomus vociferus	Eastern Whip-poor-will
	x	B-LISP	Melospiza lincolnii	Lincoln's Sparrow
	x	B-OROR	Icterus spurius	Orchard Oriole
	x	B-PUMA	Progne subis	Purple Martin
	x	B-YBCH	Icteria virens	Yellow-breasted Chat
	x	B-YTVI	Vireo flavifrons	Yellow-throated Vireo

Butterflies (from background data)				
ELC 2020	NHIC Scientific Name	NHIC Common Name	DATE	SOURCE
	<i>Cercyonis pegala</i>	Common Wood-Nymph	2016	SQR 17PH18 Ontario Butterfly Atlas
	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	Red Admiral	2019	SQR 17PH18 Ontario Butterfly Atlas
	<i>Lethe anthedon</i>	Northern Pearly-Eye	2016	SQR 17PH18 Ontario Butterfly Atlas
X	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Monarch	2019	SQR 17PH18 Ontario Butterfly Atlas
	<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>	Mourning Cloak	2018	SQR 17PH18 Ontario Butterfly Atlas
	<i>Speyeria cybele</i>	Great Spangled Fritillary	2016	SQR 17PH18 Ontario Butterfly Atlas
	<i>Polygonia progne</i>	Gray Comma	2018	SQR 17PH18 Ontario Butterfly Atlas
	<i>Papilio cresphontes</i>	Giant Swallowtail	2015	SQR 17PH18 Ontario Butterfly Atlas
	<i>Colias philodice</i>	Clouded Sulphur	2016	SQR 17PH18 Ontario Butterfly Atlas
	<i>Polygonia comma</i>	Eastern Comma	2018	SQR 17PH18 Ontario Butterfly Atlas
X	<i>Pieris rapae</i>	Cabbage White	2018	SQR 17PH18 Ontario Butterfly Atlas
X	<i>Papilio polyxenes</i>	Black Swallowtail	2016	SQR 17PH18 Ontario Butterfly Atlas
	<i>Vanessa virginiensis</i>	American Lady	2016	SQR 17PH18 Ontario Butterfly Atlas
	<i>Celastrina</i> sp	Azure sp	2016	SQR 17PH18 Ontario Butterfly Atlas
	<i>Lintneria eremitus</i>	Hermit Sphinx	2017	SQR 17PH18 Ontario Moth Atlas
	<i>Darapsa myron</i>	Virginia Creeper Moth	2015	SQR 17PH08 Ontario Moth Atlas
	<i>Spilosoma virginica</i>	Virginia Tiger Moth	2018	SQR 17PH08 Ontario Moth Atlas
	<i>Hyphantria Cunea</i>	Fall Webworm Moth	2018	SQR 17PH08 Ontario Moth Atlas
	<i>Pyrrharctia isabella</i>	Isabella Tiger	2018	SQR 17PH08 Ontario Moth Atlas
X	<i>Euchaetes egle</i>	Milkweed Tussock Moth	2015	SQR 17PH08 Ontario Moth Atlas
	<i>Antheraea polyphemus</i>	Polyphemus Moth	2018	SQR 17PH08 Ontario Moth Atlas
	<i>Estigmene acrea</i>	Salt Marsh Moth	2018	SQR 17PH08 Ontario Moth Atlas
	<i>Caenurgina erechtea</i>	Forage Looper Moth	2016	iNaturalist
	<i>Satyrrium calanus</i>	Banded Hairstreak	1991	HCA Database
	<i>Coenonympha tullia</i>	Common Ringlet	2012	HCA Database
	<i>Pholisora catullus</i>	Common Sootywing	1987	HCA Database
	<i>Colias philodice</i>	Clouded Sulphur	2012	HCA Database
	<i>Euphyes vestris</i>	Dun Skipper	1991	HCA Database
	<i>Cupido comyntas</i>	Eastern Tailed Blue	2012	HCA Database
X	<i>Papilio glaucus</i>	Eastern Tiger Swallowtail	2012	HCA Database
	<i>Thymelicus lineola</i>	European Skipper	2001	HCA Database
	<i>Erynnis juvenalis</i>	Juvenal's Duskywing	1990	HCA Database

Butterflies (from background data)				
ELC 2020	NHIC Scientific Name	NHIC Common Name	DATE	SOURCE
	<i>Ancyloxypha numitor</i>	Least Skipper	2012	HCA Database
	<i>Megisto cymela</i>	Little Wood-Satyr	1990	HCA Database
	<i>Wallengrenia egeremet</i>	Northern Broken-Dash	1990	HCA Database
	<i>Colias eurytheme</i>	Orange Sulphur	2012	HCA Database
	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	Painted Lady	2012	HCA Database
	<i>Polygonia interrogationis</i>	Question Mark	2012	HCA Database
	<i>Phyciodes tharos</i>	Pearl Crescent	1991	HCA Database
	<i>Celastrina lucia</i>	Northern Spring Azure	1991	HCA Database
	<i>Satyrium liparops</i>	Striped Hairstreak	1990	HCA Database
	<i>Celastrina neglecta</i>	Summer Azure	2001	HCA Database
	<i>Polites themistocles</i>	Tawny-edged Skipper	1990	HCA Database
X	<i>Lophocampa caryae</i>	Hickory Tussock Moth	2020	

Dragonflies and Damselflies (Background data only)			
NHIC ScientificName	NHIC CommonName	Date	Source
Plathemis lydia	Common Whitetail	2019	iNaturalist
Tramea lacerata	Black Saddlebags	2012	HCA Database
Pachydiplax longipennis	Blue Dasher	2012	HCA Database
Argia apicalis	Blue-fronted Dancer	no data	HCA Database
Celithemis elisa	Calico Pennant	2012	HCA Database
Epitheca cynosura	Common Baskettail	2012	HCA Database
Anax junius	Common Green Darner	2012	HCA Database
Enallagma basidens	Double-striped Bluet	2012	HCA Database
Perithemis tenera	Eastern Amberwing	2012	HCA Database
Ischnura verticalis	Eastern Forktail	2012	HCA Database
Erythemis simplicicollis	Eastern Pondhawk	2012	HCA Database
Lestes dryas	Emerald Spreadwing	2012	HCA Database
Enallagma civile	Familiar Bluet	2012	HCA Database
Enallagma antennatum	Rainbow Bluet	2012	HCA Database
Tramea onusta	Red Saddlebags	2012	HCA Database
Enallagma geminatum	Skimming Bluet	2012	HCA Database
Lestes congener	Spotted Spreadwing	2012	HCA Database
Enallagma exsulans	Stream Bluet	2003	HCA Database
Coenagrion resolutum	Taiga Bluet	2012	HCA Database
Libellula pulchella	Twelve-spotted Skimmer	2012	HCA Database
Pantala flavescens	Wandering Glider	2012	HCA Database
Sympetrum obtrusum	White-faced Meadowhawk	2012	HCA Database
Libellula luctuosa	Widow Skimmer	2012	HCA Database

Herpetofauna			
2020	2021	SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME
X	x	Anaxyrus americanus	American Toad
X		Thamnophis sirtalis sirtalis	Eastern Garter Snake
X		Lithobates clamitans	Green Frog
X		Chrysemys picta marginata	Midland Painted Turtle
X		Lithobates pipiens	Northern Leopard Frog
	X	Lithobates palustris	Pickerel Frog
X		Trachemys scripta elegans	Red-eared Slider
X		Chelydra serpentina	Snapping Turtle

Year	SPECIES_CODE	SCIENTIFIC_NAME_NHIC	COMMON_NAME_NHIC	NATIVE_STATUS	S_RAN_K	COSEWIC_STATUS	SARA_SCHEDULE_E1_STATUS	SARO_STATUS	G_RANK	EXOTIC_STATUS	COEFF_CONSERVATISM	COEFF_WETNES	COEFF_WEEDINESS
2020	P-ACENEGU	Acer negundo	Manitoba Maple	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data		0	no data
2020	P-ACEPLAT	Acer platanoides	Norway Maple	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		5	-3
2020	P-ACERUBR	Acer rubrum	Red Maple	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	4	0	no data
2020	P-ACESACC	Acer saccharinum	Silver Maple	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	5	-3	no data
2020	P-ACESASA	Acer saccharum	Sugar Maple	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	4	3	no data
2020	P-ACHMILL	Achillea millefolium	Common Yarrow	N	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G5	SE		3	no data
2020	P-AESHIPP	Aesculus hippocastanum	Horse Chestnut	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE2		5	-1
2020	P-ALIPLAN	Alisma triviale	Northern Water-plantain	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	1	-5	no data
2020	P-ALLPETI	Alliaria petiolata	Garlic Mustard	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		0	-3
2020	P-AMBARTE	Ambrosia artemisiifolia	Common Ragweed	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	0	3	no data
2020	P-AMBTRIF	Ambrosia trifida	Great Ragweed	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	0	0	no data
2020	P-AMMBREV	Ammophila breviligulata	American Beachgrass	N	S4	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	10	5	no data
2020	P-AMOFRUT	Amorpha fruticosa	Shrubby False Indigo	N	SU	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	5	-3	no data
2020	P-APOANAN	Apocynum androsaemifolium	Spreading Dogbane	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	3	5	no data
2020	P-ARCLAPP	Arctium lappa	Great Burdock	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		3	no data
2020	P-ARCMINU	Arctium minus	Common Burdock	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		3	no data
2020	P-ARITRTR	Arisaema triphyllum ssp. triphyllum	Jack-in-the-pulpit	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5T5	no data	5	-3	no data
2020	P-ARTVULG	Artemisia vulgaris	Common Wormwood	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GU	SE5		5	-1
2020	P-ASCININ	Asclepias incarnata ssp. incarnata	Swamp Milkweed	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5T5	no data	6	-5	no data
2020	P-ASCSYRI	Asclepias syriaca	Common Milkweed	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	0	5	no data
2020	P-ASPOFFI	Asparagus officinalis	Garden Asparagus	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G5?	SE5		3	-1
2020	P-BERTHUN	Berberis thunbergii	Japanese Barberry	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		3	-3
2020	P-BUTUMBE	Butomus umbellatus	Flowering-rush	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G5	SE5		-5	-2
2020	P-CALSEPI	Calystegia sepium	Hedge False Bindweed	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	2	0	no data
2020	P-CALSPSP	Calystegia spithamea ssp. spithamea	Low False Bindweed	N	S4S5	no data	no data	no data	G4G5T4T5	no data	7	5	no data
2020	P-CAMRAPU	Campanula rapunculoides	Creeping Bellflower	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		5	-2
2020	P-CARPROJ	Carex projecta	Necklace Sedge	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	5	-3	no data
2020	P-CARVULP	Carex vulpinoidea	Fox Sedge	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	3	-5	no data
2020	P-CAROVAT	Carya ovata	Shagbark Hickory	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	6	3	no data
2020	P-CATSPEC	Catalpa speciosa	Northern Catalpa	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G4?	SE1		3	-1
2020	P-CENMACU	Centaurea stoebe ssp. micranthos	Spotted Knapweed	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G--TNR	SE5		5	-3
2020	P-CICINTY	Cichorium intybus	Chicory	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		5	-1
2020	P-CIRLUCA	Circaea canadensis ssp. canadensis	Canada Enchanter's Nightshade	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	GNR	no data	2	3	no data
2020	P-CIRARVE	Cirsium arvense	Canada Thistle	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G5	SE5		3	-1
2020	P-CIRDISC	Cirsium discolor	Field Thistle	N	S3	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	9	5	no data
2020	P-CIRVULG	Cirsium vulgare	Bull Thistle	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		3	-1
2020	P-CONARVE	Convolvulus arvensis	Field Bindweed	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		5	-1
2020	P-CORFORA	Cornus racemosa	Gray Dogwood	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	2	0	no data
2020	P-CORSTOL	Cornus sericea	Red-osier Dogwood	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	2	-3	no data
2021	P-CARCONC	Cardamine concatenata	Cut-leaved Toothwort	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	6	3	no data
2020	P-CYDOBLO	Cydonia oblonga	Common Quince	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE1		0	no data
2020	P-DAUCARO	Daucus carota	Wild Carrot	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		5	-2
2020	P-DIAARME	Dianthus armeria	Deptford Pink	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		5	-1
2020	P-DIELONI	Diervilla lonicera	Northern Bush-honeysuckle	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	5	5	no data
2020	P-DIPFUSY	Dipsacus fullonum	Common Teasel	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		3	no data
2020	P-ECHLOBA	Echinocystis lobata	Wild Mock-cucumber	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	3	-3	no data
2020	P-ECHVULG	Echium vulgare	Common Viper's Bugloss	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		5	-2
2020	P-ELAANGU	Elaeagnus angustifolia	Russian Olive	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE3		3	-1
2020	P-ELAUMBE	Elaeagnus umbellata	Autumn Olive	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE3		3	-3
2020	P-ELESMAL	Eleocharis palustris	Creeping Spikerush	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5?	no data	6	-5	no data
2020	P-ELYREPE	Elymus repens	Creeping Wildrye	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		3	-3
2020	P-EPICOLO	Epilobium coloratum	Purple-veined Willowherb	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	3	-5	no data
2020	P-EPIHELL	Epipactis helleborine	Eastern Helleborine	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		3	-2
2020	P-ERIANNU	Erigeron annuus	Annual Fleabane	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	0	3	no data
2020	P-CONCANA	Erigeron canadensis	Canada Horseweed	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	0	3	no data
2020	P-ERIPHIL	Erigeron philadelphicus	Philadelphia Fleabane	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	1	-3	no data

2020	P-ASTMACR	Eurybia macrophylla	Large-leaved Aster	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	5	5	no data
2020	P-EUTGRAM	Euthamia graminifolia	Grass-leaved Goldenrod	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	2	0	no data
2020	P-FAGGRAN	Fagus grandifolia	American Beech	N	S4	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	6	3	no data
2020	P-FRAAMER	Fraxinus americana	White Ash	N	S4	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	4	3	no data
2020	P-FRAPENN	Fraxinus pennsylvanica	Green Ash	N	S4	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	3	-3	no data
2020	P-GALAPAR	Galium aparine	Cleavers	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	4	3	no data
2020	P-GALASPR	Galium asprellum	Rough Bedstraw	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	6	-5	no data
2020	P-GERMACU	Geranium maculatum	Spotted Geranium	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	6	3	no data
2020	P-GERROBE	Geranium robertianum	Herb-Robert	I	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	2	3	-2
2020	P-GEUALEP	Geum aleppicum	Yellow Avens	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	2	0	no data
2020	P-GEUCANA	Geum canadense	White Avens	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	3	0	no data
2020	P-GEULACI	Geum laciniatum	Rough Avens	N	S4	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	4	-3	no data
2020	P-GLEHEDE	Glechoma hederacea	Ground Ivy	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		3	no data
2020	P-GLETRIA	Gleditsia triacanthos	Honey-locust	I	S2?	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	8	0	no data
2020	P-HAMVIRG	Hamamelis virginiana	American Witch-hazel	N	S4S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	6	3	no data
2020	P-HELTUBE	Helianthus tuberosus	Jerusalem Artichoke	I	SU	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	1	0	-1
2020	P-HEMFULV	Hemerocallis fulva	Orange Daylily	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNA	SE5		5	-3
2020	P-HESMATR	Hesperis matronalis	Dame's Rocket	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G4G5	SE5		3	-3
2020	P-HIBSYRI	Hibiscus syriacus	Rose of Sharon	I									
2020	P-HIEPANI	Hieracium paniculatum	Panicled Hawkweed	N	S2	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	10	5	no data
2020	P-HIECANA	Hieracium umbellatum	Umbellate Hawkweed	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	6	5	no data
2020	P-HYDAMER	Hydrocotyle americana	American Water-pennywort	N	S4S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	7	-5	no data
2020	P-HYPASCY	Hypericum ascyron	Great St. John's-wort	N	S3	no data	no data	no data	G4	no data	6	0	no data
2020	P-HYPPERF	Hypericum perforatum	Common St. John's-wort	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		5	-3
2020	P-HYPPUNC	Hypericum punctatum	Spotted St. John's-wort	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	5	0	no data
2020	P-IMPCAPE	Impatiens capensis	Spotted Jewelweed	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	4	-3	no data
2020	P-JUGREGI	Juglans regia	English Walnut	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE1		5	no data
2020	P-JUGNIGR	Juglans nigra	Black Walnut	N	S4?	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	5	3	no data
2020	P-JUNEFOS	Juncus effusus ssp. solutus	Soft Rush	N	S5?	no data	no data	no data	G5T5	no data	4	-5	no data
2020	P-JUNTENU	Juncus tenuis	Path Rush	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	0	0	no data
2020	P-JUNVIRG	Juniperus virginiana	Eastern Red Cedar	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	4	3	no data
2020	P-LACSERR	Lactuca serriola	Prickly Lettuce	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		3	-1
2020	P-LAPCOMM	Lapsana communis	Common Nipplewort	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		3	-2
2020	P-LARLARI	Larix laricina	Tamarack	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	7	-3	no data
2020	P-LEEORYZ	Leersia oryzoides	Rice Cutgrass	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	3	-5	no data
2020	P-LEOCACA	Leonurus cardiaca ssp. cardiaca	Common Motherwort	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNRTNR	SE5		5	no data
2020	P-LIGVULG	Ligustrum vulgare	European Privet	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		3	-2
2020	P-LIRTULI	Liriodendron tulipifera	Tulip Tree	N	S4	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	8	3	no data
2020	P-LONDIOI	Lonicera dioica	Limber Honeysuckle	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	5	3	no data
2020	P-LONMORR	Lonicera morrowii	Morrow's Honeysuckle	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE3		3	-1
2020	P-LONTATA	Lonicera tatarica	Tartarian Honeysuckle	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		3	no data
2020	P-LOTORN	Lotus corniculatus	Garden Bird's-foot Trefoil	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		3	-2
2020	P-LYSNUMM	Lysimachia nummularia	Creeping Jennie	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		-3	-3
2020	P-LYTSALI	Lythrum salicaria	Purple Loosestrife	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G5	SE5		-5	-3
2020	P-POLMULT	Polygonatum multiflorum	Eurasian Solomon's Seal	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE1		0	no data
2020	P-MELALBA	Melilotus albus	White Sweet-clover	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G5	SE5		3	-3
2020	P-MENARBO	Mentha canadensis	Canada Mint	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	3	-3	no data
2020	P-MONFIST	Monarda fistulosa	Wild Bergamot	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	6	3	no data
2020	P-MORALBA	Morus alba	White Mulberry	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		0	-3
2020	P-MYOLAXA	Myosotis laxa	Small Forget-me-not	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	6	-5	no data
2020	P-NEPCATA	Nepeta cataria	Catnip	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		3	-2
2020	P-OENBIEN	Oenothera biennis	Common Evening Primrose	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	0	3	no data
2020	P-OSTVIRG	Ostrya virginiana	Eastern Hop-hornbeam	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	4	3	no data
2020	P-PARINSE	Parthenocissus vitacea	Thicket Creeper	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	4	3	no data
2020	P-PARQUIN	Parthenocissus quinquefolia	Virginia Creeper	N	S4?	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	6	3	no data
2020	P-POLLAPA	Persicaria lapathifolia	Pale Smartweed	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	2	-3	no data
2020	P-POLPERS	Persicaria maculosa	Spotted Lady's-thumb	N	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G3G5	SE5		-3	-1
2020	P-POLVIRM	Persicaria virginiana	Virginia Smartweed	N	S4	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	6	0	no data
2020	P-PHAARUN	Phalaris arundinacea	Reed Canary Grass	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data		-3	no data

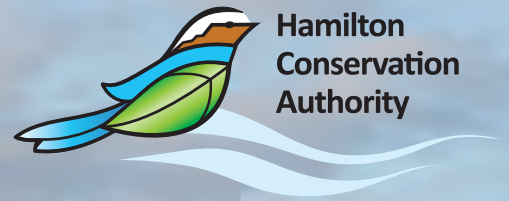
2020	P-PHRAUST	Phragmites australis ssp. australis	European Reed	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G5T5	no data		-3	no data
2020	P-PHYOPUL	Physocarpus opulifolius	Eastern Ninebark	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	5	-3	no data
2020	P-PICABIE	Picea abies	Norway Spruce	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G5	SE3		5	-1
2020	P-PICGLAU	Picea glauca	White Spruce	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	6	3	no data
2020	P-PICPUNG	Picea pungens	Blue Spruce	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G5	SE1		3	NA
2020	P-PINNIGR	Pinus nigra	Black Pine	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE3		5	-1
2020	P-PINSTRO	Pinus strobus	Eastern White Pine	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	4	3	no data
2020	P-PINSYLV	Pinus sylvestris	Scots Pine	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		3	-3
2020	P-PLALANC	Plantago lanceolata	English Plantain	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G5	SE5		3	-1
2020	P-PLAMAJO	Plantago major	Common Plantain	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G5	SE5		3	-1
2020	P-PODPELT	Podophyllum peltatum	May-apple	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	5	3	no data
2020	P-POLBIFL	Polygonatum biflorum	Giant Solomon's Seal	N	S4	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	8	3	no data
2020	P-POLPUBE	Polygonatum pubescens	Hairy Solomon's Seal	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	5	5	no data
2020	P-POPDEMO	Populus deltoides	Eastern Cottonwood	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	4	0	no data
2020	P-POPTREM	Populus tremuloides	Trembling Aspen	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	2	0	no data
2020	P-POTARGE	Potentilla argentea	Silvery Cinquefoil	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		3	-2
2020	P-POTRECT	Potentilla recta	Sulphur Cinquefoil	N	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		5	-2
2020	P-PRUVULG	Prunella vulgaris	Self-heal	I	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	0	0	no data
2020	P-PRUAVIU	Prunus avium	Sweet Cherry	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE4		5	-2
2020	P-PRUSERO	Prunus serotina	Black Cherry	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	3	3	no data
2020	P-PRUVIVI	Prunus virginiana	Choke Cherry	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	2	3	no data
2020	P-PYRCOMM	Pyrus communis	Common Pear	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G5	SE4		5	-1
2020	P-QUEALBA	Quercus alba	White Oak	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	6	3	no data
2020	P-QUEBICO	Quercus bicolor	Swamp White Oak	N	S4	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	8	-3	no data
2020	P-QUEMACR	Quercus macrocarpa	Bur Oak	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	5	3	no data
2020	P-QUEVELU	Quercus velutina	Black Oak	N	S4	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	8	5	no data
2020	P-QUEPALU	Quercus palustris	Pin Oak	N	S4	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	9	-3	no data
2020	P-QUERUBR	Quercus rubra	Northern Red Oak	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	6	3	no data
2020	P-RANABOR	Ranunculus abortivus	Kidney-leaved Buttercup	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	2	0	no data
2020	P-RANSCEL	Ranunculus sceleratus	Cursed Buttercup	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	2	-5	no data
2020	P-RHACATH	Rhamnus cathartica	Common Buckthorn	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		0	-3
2020	P-RHUAROM	Rhus aromatica	Fragrant Sumac	N	S4	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	8	5	no data
2020	P-RHUTYPH	Rhus typhina	Staghorn Sumac	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	1	3	no data
2020	P-RIBRUBR	Ribes rubrum	Northern Red Currant	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G4G5	SE5		5	-2
2020	P-ROBPSEU	Robinia pseudoacacia	Black Locust	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G5	SE5		3	-3
2020	P-RORPALU	Rorippa palustris	Marsh Yellowcress	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	3	-5	no data
2020	P-ROSMULT	Rosa multiflora	Multiflora Rose	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		3	-3
2020	P-ROSRUGO	Rosa rugosa	Rugosa Rose	N	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE1		3	-1
2020		Rosa blanda	Smooth Rose	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	3	3	no data
2020	P-RUBALLE	Rubus allegheniensis	Allegheny Blackberry	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	2	3	no data
2020	P-RUBIDID	Rubus idaeus ssp. idaeus	Common Red Raspberry	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G5T5	SE1		3	no data
2020	P-RUBOCCI	Rubus occidentalis	Black Raspberry	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	2	5	no data
2020	P-RUDHIRT	Rudbeckia hirta	Black-eyed Susan	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	0	3	no data
2020	P-RUMCRIS	Rumex crispus	Curly Dock	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		0	-2
2020	P-SAGLATI	Sagittaria latifolia	Broad-leaved Arrowhead	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	4	-5	no data
2020	P-SALFRAG	Salix euxina	Crack Willow	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE		0	-3
2020	P-SAMCANA	Sambucus canadensis	Common Elderberry	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	5	-3	no data
2020	P-SCICYPE	Scirpus cyperinus	Cottongrass Bulrush	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	4	-5	no data
2020	P-SOLDULC	Solanum dulcamara	Bittersweet Nightshade	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		0	-2
2020	P-SOLCANA	Solidago canadensis	Canada Goldenrod	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	1	3	no data
2020	P-SOLJUNC	Solidago juncea	Early Goldenrod	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	3	5	no data
2020	P-SPAEURY	Sparganium eurycarpum	Broad-fruited Burreed	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	3	-5	no data
2020	P-ASTLALN	Symphyotrichum lanceolatum ssp. lanceolatum	Panicled Aster	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5T5	no data	3	-3	no data
2020	P-ASTPUPU	Symphyotrichum puniceum var. puniceum	Swamp Aster	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5T5	no data	6	-5	no data
2020	P-THUOCCI	Thuja occidentalis	Eastern White Cedar	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	4	-3	no data
2020	P-TILAMER	Tilia americana	American Basswood	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	4	3	no data
2020	P-TILCORD	Tilia cordata	Little-leaf Linden	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE1		5	no data
2020	P-RHURADI	Toxicodendron radicans	Poison Ivy	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	2	0	no data
2020	P-TRIPRAT	Trifolium pratense	Red Clover	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		3	-2

2020	P-TYPANGU	Typha angustifolia	Narrow-leaved Cattail	N	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G5	SE5		-5	no data
2020	P-ULMAMER	Ulmus americana	American Elm	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	3	-3	no data
2020	P-ULMPROC	Ulmus procera	English Elm	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE1		3	no data
2020	P-ULMRUBR	Ulmus rubra	Slippery Elm	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	6	0	no data
2020	P-URTDIGR	Urtica dioica ssp. gracilis	Slender Stinging Nettle	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5T5	no data	2	0	no data
2020	P-VERTHAP	Verbascum thapsus	Common Mullein	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		5	-2
2020	P-VERHAST	Verbena hastata	Blue Vervain	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	4	-3	no data
2020	P-VERURTI	Verbena urticifolia	White Vervain	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	4	0	no data
2020	P-VEROFFI	Veronica officinalis	Common Speedwell	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G5	SE5		5	-2
2020	P-VERSERP	Veronica serpyllifolia	Thyme-leaved Speedwell	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G5	SE5?		0	no data
2020	P-VIBLENT	Viburnum lentago	Nannyberry	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	4	0	no data
2020	P-VIBOPUL	Viburnum opulus	Cranberry Viburnum	I	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	5	-3	-1
2020	P-VICCRAC	Vicia cracca	Tufted Vetch	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE5		5	-1
2020	P-VICHIRS	Vicia hirsuta	Hairy Vetch	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE1		5	no data
2020	P-VITRIPA	Vitis riparia	Riverbank Grape	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	0	0	no data
2020	P-XANSTRU	Xanthium strumarium	Rough Cocklebur	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	2	0	no data
2001	P-ASTCORD	Symphyotrichum cordifolium	Heart-leaved Aster	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	5	5	no data
2001	P-EUOBOV	Euonymus obovatus	Running Strawberry-bush	N	S4	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	6	5	no data
2001	P-HYDVIRG	Hydrophyllum virginianum	Virginia Water-leaf	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	6	0	no data
2001	P-MAICANA	Maianthemum canadense	Wild Lily-of-the-valley	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5T5	no data	5	3	no data
2001	P-MAIRARA	Maianthemum racemosum ssp. racemosum	False Solomon's Seal	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	4	3	no data
2001	P-SAGLATI	Sagittaria latifolia	Common Arrowhead	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	4	-5	no data
2020	P-LARDECI	Larix decidua	European larch	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	G5	SE2		5	-1
2021	P-NARPSEU	Narcissus pseudonarcissus	Common Daffodil	I	SNA	no data	no data	no data	GNR	SE2		5	no data
2021	P-ERYAMAM	Erythronium americanum ssp. americanum	Yellow Trout-lily	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5T5	no data	5	5	no data
2021	P-CLAVIRG	Claytonia virginica	Narrow-leaved Spring Beauty	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	5	3	no data
2021	P-ANEQUIN	Anemone quinquefolia	Wood Anemone	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	7	0	no data
2021	P-AMEARBO	Amelanchier arborea	Downy Serviceberry	N	S5	no data	no data	no data	G5	no data	5	3	no data
FLORISTIC SUMMARY & ASSESSMENT													
Species Diversity													
	Total Species:		243		202								
	Native Species:		125	51%	62%								
	Exotic Species		77	32%	38%								
	Species ID'd to sp. only		41										
	Total Taxa in Region (NAI 2014)		1496										
	% Regional Taxa Recorded		14%										
	Regionally Significant Species												
	S1-S3 Species		4										
	S4 Species		15										
	S5 Species		101										
	no data		0										
Co-efficient of Conservatism and Floral Quality Index													
	Co-efficient of Conservatism (CC) (average)		1.94										
	CC 0 to 3	lowest sensitivity	47										
	CC 4 to 6	moderate sensitivity	62										
	CC 7 to 8	high sensitivity	10										
	CC 9 to 10	highest sensitivity	4										
	Floral Quality Index (FQI)		21.70										

APPENDIX 8

References

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**Hamilton
Conservation
Authority**

A Healthy Watershed for Everyone



Hamilton Conservation Authority

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Report

TO: Conservation Advisory Board

FROM: Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

RECOMMENDED AND PREPARED BY: Gordon R. Costie, Director of Conservation Area Services
Bruce Harschnitz, Manager, Conservation Area Services

MEETING DATE: December 9, 2021

RE: Reservation System - Spencer Gorge Conservation Area

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

WHEREAS the pilot 2020 and 2021 reservation system for Dundas Peak, Tew Falls, and Webster Falls, was highly successful at improving the Conservation Area experience by controlling and regulating the number of visitors, and for reducing vehicle traffic and congestion within the nearby community;

WHEREAS staff were directed to evaluate the effectiveness of the pilot reservation system and report back on the operations in 2021;

WHEREAS staff were directed to monitor and evaluate the reservation system as a potential and continuous part of the operations in addressing parking and visitor management strategies for the area;

THEREFORE, be it resolved

THAT the reservation system be integrated as part of the ongoing operation of Spencer Gorge Conservation Area based on the following parametres:

THAT future reservation periods for Spencer Gorge Conservation Area continue to reflect the dates of May to November, with specific start and end dates to be determined by staff; and further

THAT the reservation period operates based on weekend and Public Holiday reservation requirements in 2022 until mid-September when 7 day a week reservation will be required for Fall colours; while still providing the ability of staff to undertake real time adjustments for reservation system requirements to add additional reservation days if required.

BACKGROUND

Spencer Gorge Conservation Area continues to be one of the most spectacular tourist attractions across the city featuring the iconic escarpment features of Tew Falls, Webster Falls, and the Dundas Peak. HCA has evolved its visitor management strategies for the area over the past decade to adjust to its growing popularity.

The pandemic was the genesis of the pilot 2020 reservation system operations for the Fall colour season, which was very successful. The reservation system continued as an extension of the 2020 Fall pilot program during the main operating season in 2021, allowing staff the opportunity to further evaluate the effectiveness of a longer reservation service period. The 2021 experience has again demonstrated its effectiveness and provides the basis for the recommendations for 2022.

STAFF COMMENT

In the past, the Spencer Gorge has experienced high numbers of visitors and crowding on its trail system and viewing platforms, particularly during the Fall colour season. Additionally, there was traffic congestion in the small community causing safety concerns. The reservation system experience of 2020 and 2021 has ensured an enjoyable experience for visitors, by guaranteeing a parking spot and the ability to enjoy these areas without big crowds. A safe and equitable way to see this beautiful area is especially important during the ongoing pandemic. The overall impact to the local community has been mostly positive and profound.

Reservation Overview and Metrics:

The reservation system operated for a 6-month period from May 1, to November 14, 2021. During this time period 14,112 reservations were successfully made and brought 40,506 visitors to the Spencer Gorge.

Over the 2021 reservation period, weekday traffic from both parking lots were significantly lower than the overall parking capacities. The weekend traffic fared better yet still has adequate room for growth demand periods.

As expected, October weekend and weekday traffic increased significantly as leaves started changing colour. The Fall colour season can create the most unpredictable

outcomes regarding traffic and staff are recommending continuation of the 7 day a week full reservation to both parking lots in visiting Spencer Gorge Conservation Area during that period.

Table 1 below provides the attendance and capacity summary experienced at both locations.

2021 Spencer Gorge Reservation System Summary								
Month	Dundas Peak/Tew Falls				Webster Falls			
	% Weekday Attendance	% Weekend Attendance	# of Weekend Days Over 75% Capacity	# of Weekday Days Over 75% Capacity	% Weekday Attendance	% Weekend Attendance	# of Weekend Days Over 75% Capacity	# of Weekday Days Over 75% Capacity
May	8.48	58.59	4	0	10.81	73.64	7	0
June	8.09	62.33	3	0	12.5	86.04	6	0
July	9.87	41.80	1	0	16.75	67.17	4	0
August	8.82	33.87	0	0	17.35	59.1	3	0
September	10.22	48.44	0	0	11.27	56.11	2	0
October	57.07	94.12	10	8	23.08	86.52	9	0
November (1-14)	31.78	77.07	3	0	10.74	57	2	0

* - Weekend Days include Holidays

As a result of the attendance and capacity experience of 2021, staff are recommending weekend and Public Holiday reservation requirements until mid September, then for the Fall colour season, 7 day per week reservations will begin. Weekend reservations in the May to September period mirrors the past shuttle bus operating days that operated prior to the pandemic, but without the flaws of the shuttle such as its inability to address sudden inclement weather and barring of dogs. The return to 7 day a week reservation for the Fall colours addresses the higher visitor volume that coincides with the brilliant Fall colours and which the reservation system effectively handled in both 2020 and 2021.

Staff note that 2021 Fall visitation was lighter than 2020, however, the weather was not as good and the easing of pandemic restrictions did open up more recreation options for people to once again experience.

Fall colours September 19 – Nov 15, 2020 – 8,100 reservations booked
 Fall colours September 19 – Nov 14, 2021 – 5,856 reservations booked

While numbers were down, the reservation system, coupled with support from City parking and bylaw, were once again effective in keeping traffic congestion to a minimum and provide a safe and enjoyable visitor experience.

Given that the 2021 experience demonstrated that HCA parking lots can handle the weekday capacity, staff have confidence in recommending that no reservation will be required Monday to Friday until the Fall colour season. This allows for regular day use and membership pass access without reservation, which includes available drive-up, cycle-up, and community walk-in access. This operating approach addresses feedback from both the community and passholders to provide access when there was capacity. Should attendance and visitor volume increase beyond parking lot capacity, staff can quickly pivot and update the reservation system as needed.

There was a significant decrease in issued parking violations which was a dramatic improvement over 2020. The Greenville area experienced a large reduction in parking tickets in the special enforcement area, with municipal bylaw advising of a reduction of approximately 62%, over the same period in 2020.

Similar to the previous years of the reservation system, the reservation system will require timely and effective public communication campaigns from the HCA Marketing department. This will include (but not limited to) working with media partners such as Bell Media, Corus Entertainment, Metroland Media, Social influencer websites, Google, Social media networks and HCA's own website and social media platforms.

HCA intends to continue to operate from the Greenville Optimist parking lot as the reservation parking area for Webster Falls when reservations are required.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGE

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

Conservation Area Experience

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

Organizational Excellence

- Initiative – Providing a positive and safe environment for both staff and visitors.

AGENCY COMMENTS

Staff continue to work closely with the City of Hamilton Waterfall Working Group addressing city and community concerns in a balanced and reflective manner. The working group has been successful in identifying and implementing meaningful change which will continue to help shape future operations.

LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Reservation system costs as well as expenses for staff and security, will remain part of the operating budget for Christie Lake business unit. The reservation system and security costs remain an ongoing expense at all HCA major Conservation Areas where required. The reservation fee will help offset these expenses as well as administration and client support costs for booking support.

CONCLUSIONS

The collective results of the reservation system have provided a vastly improved visitor experience with less crowding and a guaranteed parking space, and has also built an overall greater rapport within the Greenville community by addressing traffic volume and congestion.

Staff have acquired the experience and confidence in managing an effective reservation operation that provides equitable access to the Spencer Gorge conservation Area through a reservation system which addresses weekend and Fall colour visitor volume and also provides weekday access without reservation during the non-colour season.

Report

TO: Budget & Administration Committee

FROM: Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

**PREPARED WITH
INPUT FROM:** Scott Peck, Deputy CAO/Director of WP&E
Neil McDougall, Secretary-Treasurer

MEETING DATE: January 20, 2022

RE: HCA Draft Inventory of Programs and Services

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

THAT the Board of Directors approve the attached HCA Draft Inventory of Programs and Services, subject to and including any further revisions as noted during the January 20th, 2022 meeting.

BACKGROUND

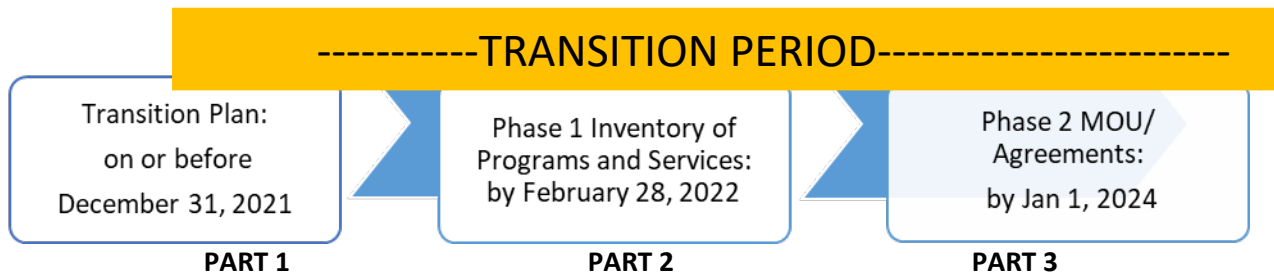
On October 7th, 2021, three (3) new regulations were instituted under the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

- Ontario Regulation 686/21: Mandatory Programs and Services. This regulation prescribes the mandatory programs and services conservation authorities would be required to provide, including core watershed-based resource management strategies.
- Ontario Regulation 687/21: Transition Plans and Agreements for Programs and Services Under Section 21.1.2 of the Act. This regulation requires each authority to have a 'transition plan' that would outline the steps to be taken to develop an inventory of programs and services and to enter into agreements with participating municipalities to fund non-mandatory programs and services through a municipal levy, among other things. It also establishes the transition period to enter into those agreements.

- Ontario Regulation 688/21: Rules of Conduct in Conservation Areas. This regulation consolidates the current individual conservation authority 'Conservation Area' regulations made under Section 29 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* into one Minister's regulation that regulates the public use of authority owned land.

The recently proclaimed provisions within the *Conservation Authorities Act* and these accompanying regulations establish the requirements for Transition Plans and Agreements for Programs and Services (see Section 21.1.2 of the Act and Regulation 687/21).

The key components and deadlines for the Transition Plan are illustrated in the figure below. The purpose of the transition period is to provide conservation authorities and municipalities the time to address changes to the budgeting and levy process prior to implementation of the new provisions on January 1st, 2024.



In order to be in compliance with Regulation 687/21, the Board of Directors approved the HCA Transition Plan at its November 4th, 2021 meeting, following the requirements set out by MECP.

As shown in the figure above, the Inventory of Programs and Services is required by February 28th, 2022 and staff have now completed a draft inventory of programs and services to stay in compliance with that schedule.

STAFF COMMENT

As indicated in Regulation 687/21, each conservation authority is to develop an inventory of services and programs they currently offer, broken into three categories defined as follows:

Category 1 – Mandatory programs and services provided by the CA Act (municipal levy used without any agreement)

Category 2 – Municipal programs and services provided at the request of a municipality (with municipal funding through an MOU/Agreement)

Category 3 – Other programs and services that an authority determines are advisable (self funded through user fees, grants, donations and sponsorships; any use of municipal funding requires agreement/MOU with participating municipalities and subject to cost apportioning).

MECP indicated at information webinars held in the Fall of 2021 that the government understands that programs and services, other than those mandated by the province, currently provided by many conservation authorities are valuable and important to local communities, such as education and / or active recreation. It was noted that conservation authorities can continue to provide these programs and services that the conservation authority determines are advisable either through an MOU or other agreement or, on a self funded basis.

HCA already has several funding arrangements and agreements with the City of Hamilton in regard to water quality testing, management agreement for Confederation Beach Park, ownership agreement for Westfield Heritage Village and block funding for capital and major maintenance, all of which have been captured in the inventory.

HCA Inventory

In order to promote consistency across the 36 conservation authorities, Conservation Ontario (CO) developed a high-level program naming convention that describes the mandatory programs and services (Category 1) required by the Province. HCA adopted this template in preparing its draft inventory. The CO template uses the mandatory programs and services subtitles outlined in Section 21.1 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*:

- Natural Hazard Management
- Conservation Lands and Conservation Areas
- Drinking Water Source Protection
- Water Quality and Quantity Monitoring
- Core Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy

Staff then added municipally agreed-to-programs (Category 2) and other programs and services (Category 3) that are currently provided and deemed worthy of continuance.

The inventory is required to show sources of funding and an average amount of spending that has been used to deliver these programs and services. It is permitted to use some other methodology than the 5-year historical average if accompanied with explanation and in this regard, staff felt it was more realistic and accurate to use projected costing from the 2022 Budget trial balance, rather than including past costs which don't reflect inflation or other current factors. It was also felt that the inventory is a forward-looking document intended to capture and reflect up to date costs to deliver the programs and services. To do so requires the use of current budget costs and existing municipal funding, available provincial grants and self generated income sources, and not ones based in the past.

All program and service costing ties back, in total, directly to the 2022 Budget presented and approved by the Board in November of 2021. Each department was reviewed individually and assigned to one or more programs within the inventory. In many instances, one department covered several programs; and in these cases, a best and reasonable estimate was made to allocate the department costs amongst the related programs. In several other situations, more than one department would have activities which supported a single category. Here too, an allocation between categories and departments was necessitated, with a reasonable estimate that was reviewed and approved by the divisional director assigned as appropriate.

Central Support Services such as Finance, IT, Human Resources, Marketing and general administrative and overhead costs were first divided amongst the categories and then assigned to individual programs and services based on a percent of cost basis within the category. Any general income, such as interest or grants were used to reduce the overall costs prior to allocations. This, staff believes, is the most equitable way to distribute the common costs. Conservation Ontario has referenced these costs as “Enabling Costs” which are listed on the last page of the inventory and the Province is to release details as part of the future Phase 2 regulations of the *Conservation Authorities Act* in regard to details about funding, but this has not happened as yet. It would be anticipated that the methodology for inclusion of these types of services would be part of the Phase 2 regulations. Again, to reference the webinars held by the Province last Fall, the province acknowledges that individual Authorities are in the best position to know what would be most appropriate for their individual situation and supports them in doing so.

Inventory Goals

Similar to our annual budget process, staff set out overarching goals for the inventory process as follows:

- Work within and require no increase to the current levy provided by City of Hamilton and Township of Puslinch
- Work within and require no increase to the current capital and major maintenance block funding provided by the City of Hamilton
- Undertake municipal programs (Category 2) other programs and services (Category 3) that support the 2019 – 2023 Strategic Plan and can be reliably funded

STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGE

The proposed updates refer directly to the HCA Strategic Plan 2019-2023:

- **Strategic Goal – Organizational Excellence**

AGENCY COMMENTS

The inventory of programs and services is required to be circulated to all participating municipalities in the authority's area of jurisdiction and be published on the conservation authority's website or made available to the public by other means, by February 28, 2022. The inventory may be amended after the February 28th deadline based on feedback received from participating municipalities.

It is anticipated that municipalities will offer feedback and seek any clarification and refinements on the inventory during the balance of the transition phase from the February 28, 2022 deadline to December 31, 2023. As the inventory is reviewed with our participating municipalities, the City of Hamilton and Township of Puslinch, comments, modifications and updates may be made which will be summarized in the required progress reports that are to be submitted to MECP through 2022 and 2023. Upon agreement to the inventory, municipal partners will need to enter into formal agreements for any Category 2 and 3 programs and services where municipal levy or funding is proposed to be used.

Category 1 (mandatory programs and services) are not subject to, nor do they require, any municipal agreement.

LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All required conservation authority/municipal MOUs/agreements would need to be in place by January 1, 2024, unless an extension is requested on or before October 1, 2023.

CONCLUSIONS

The passage of Regulation 687/21 "Transition Plans and Agreements for Programs and Services Under Section 21.1.2 of the Act" requires the development of Transition Plans and an inventory of programs and services by each Conservation Authority. HCA has drafted the attached inventory in compliance with the Act and upon approval by the Board of Directors, it will be circulated to the City of Hamilton and Township of Puslinch.



HCA Draft Inventory of Programs & Services

*As required for Conservation
Authority Act Amendments*

January 20,2022

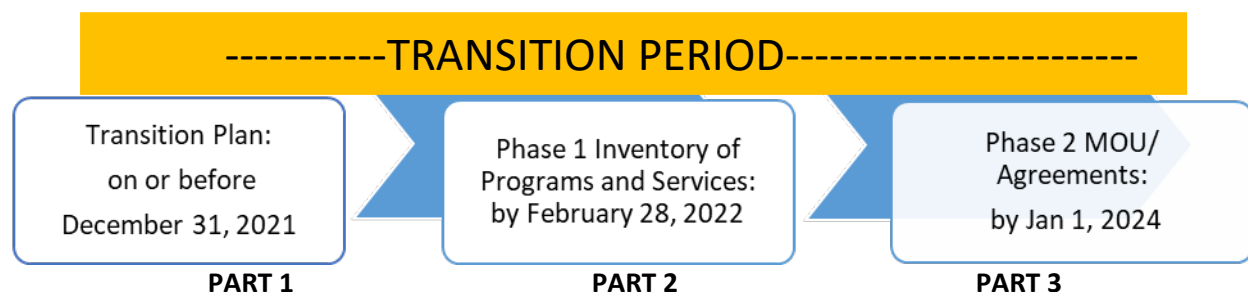
BACKGROUND

On October 7th, 2021, three (3) new regulations were instituted under the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

- Ontario Regulation 686/21: Mandatory Programs and Services.
- Ontario Regulation 687/21: Transition Plans and Agreements for Programs and Services
- Ontario Regulation 688/21: Rules of Conduct in Conservation Areas.

The recently proclaimed provisions within the *Conservation Authorities Act* and these accompanying regulations establish the requirements for Transition Plans and Agreements for Programs and Services (see Section 21.1.2 of the Act and [Regulation 687/21](#)).

The key components and deadlines for the Transition Plan are illustrated in the figure below. The purpose of the transition period is to provide conservation authorities and municipalities the time to address changes to the budgeting and levy process prior to implementation of the new provisions on January 1st, 2024.



In order to be in compliance with Regulation 687/21, the HCA Board of Directors approved the HCA Transition Plan at its November 4th, 2021 meeting, following the requirements set out by MECP.

As shown in the figure above, the Board approved Inventory of Programs and Services is required by February 28th, 2022.

The Board approved inventory of programs and services is required to be circulated to HCA's participating municipalities, the City of Hamilton and Township of Puslinch and be published on the conservation authority's website or made available to the public by other means. The inventory may be amended after the February 28th deadline based on feedback received from participating municipalities during the balance of the transition phase from the February 28, 2022 deadline to December 31, 2023. Upon agreement to the inventory, municipal partners will need to enter into formal agreements for any Category 2 and 3 programs and services where municipal levy or funding is proposed to be used.

HCA Tables of Programs and Services Natural Hazards Management Program

MECP is requesting that EACH program and service is categorized into one of 3 categories, as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mandatory programs and services (<i>defined in regulation; where municipal levy could be used without any agreement</i>) 2. Municipal programs and services. Programs and services at the request of a municipality (<i>with municipal funding through an MOU/agreement</i>) 3. Other programs and services. Programs and services an authority determines are advisable (<i>use of municipal levy requires an MOU/agreement with participating municipalities</i>) <p><i>*A program/service that is identified as mandatory is eligible but not required to receive municipal funding</i></p> <p><i>*More than one category may apply to programs</i></p>						
Program/Service and (subservices) <i>The Program/service is in bold and the subservice below.</i>	Description	Category 1 – Mandatory 2- Municipal 3- Other	Category classification concerns (Y* or N**) <i>*Document any concerns for submission to MECP</i> <i>**for Category 1 only; refer to section of O.Reg. 686/21 that applies as the required explanation</i>	Funding mechanism- % contributions (e.g., provincial, federal, municipal funding, municipal levy, and self- generated revenue).	Estimated Annual cost (based on 2022 budget figures or other amount with explanation)	Program/ Service provided date (prior or post Feb 2022) (indicate present or future).
Natural Hazard Management – see 21.1 (1) 1 i of the <i>Conservation Authorities Act</i> ; Sections 1-8 of the Mandatory Programs and Services Regulation O.R. 686/21						
NH1 Section 28.1 Permit Administration and compliance activities	Reviewing and processing permit applications, associated technical reports, site inspections, communication with applicants, agents, and consultants. Legal expenses for regulations and compliance.	1	N - Section 8 O. R 686/21	Municipal Levy 62% Self-generated Revenue 38%	\$401,000	Currently provided
NH2 Review under Other Legislation	Input to the review and approval processes under other applicable law, (e.g. Environmental Assessment Act, Drainage Act, Aggregate Resources Act, Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act proposals) with comments principally related to natural hazards, wetlands, watercourses and Sec 28 permit requirements.	1	N – Section 6 O. R 686/21	Municipal Levy 100% Self-generated Revenue proposed as advisable in the future for Niagara Escarpment Planning & development Act Proposals	\$58,500	Currently provided

NH3 Municipal Plan Input and Review	Technical information and advice to municipalities on circulated municipal land use planning applications (Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments, Subdivisions, Consents, Minor Variances). Input to municipal land-use planning documents (OP, Comprehensive ZB, Secondary plans) related to natural hazards, on behalf of MNRF (delegated to CAs in 1983)	1 , 2	N – Section 7 O. R 686/21	Municipal Levy 62% Self-generated Revenue 38%	\$401,000	Currently provided
NH4 Flood Forecasting and Warning	Daily data collection and monitoring of weather forecasts, provincial & local water level forecasts and watershed conditions. Flood event forecasting. Flood warning and communications. Maintenance of equipment.	1	N – Section 2 O. R 686/21	Provincial Funding 36% Municipal Levy 64%	\$126,400	Currently provided
NH5 Flood and Erosion Control Infrastructure Operation <i>and</i> Management NOTE: Operational and Asset management plans to be completed on or before December 31, 2024 per requirements in Section 5 of the Mandatory Programs and Services Regulation	Water & erosion control infrastructure and low flow augmentation.	1	N – Section 5 O. R 686/21	Provincial Funding 36% Municipal Levy 64%	\$99,400 Cost to be determined for management plan	Currently Provided Asset mgmt. plan to be developed
NH6 Flood Plain Mapping	Data collection, analysis and identification of areas susceptible to riverine or coastal flooding to create mapping products to delineate flood-prone areas.	1	N – Section 1 O. R 686/21	Reserves 100% Capital Block Funding Self generated Funding	\$106, 000	Currently Provided

NH7 Ice Management Services NOTE: Ice Management Plan(s) to be completed as necessary on or before December 31, 2024 per requirements in Section 4 of the Mandatory Programs and Services Regulation	Frazil ice formation forecasting in Spencer Creek in Dundas, including potential standby equipment.	1	N – Section 4 O. R 686/21	Municipal Levy 100%	\$20,400 Costs to be determined for ice mgmt. plan	Currently Provided Ice mgmt. plan to be developed
NH8 Low water response	Conditions monitoring/analysis. Technical & administrative support to the Water Response Team representing major water users and decision makers, who recommend drought response actions.	1	N – Section 3 O. R 686/21	Municipal Levy 100% Provincial Funding 0% (when available)	\$8,200	Currently provided
NH9 Natural Hazards Technical Studies and Information Management	Data collection and study of designs to mitigate natural hazards. Development and use of systems to collect and store data and to provide spatial geographical representations of data.	1	N – Section 1 O. R 686/21	Provincial Funding 0% Municipal Levy 100%	\$396,100	Currently Provided
NH10 Natural Hazards Communications, Outreach and Education	Promoting public awareness of natural hazards including flooding, drought, and erosion. Public events, materials. Social media services. Media relations.	1	N Section 1 O. R 686/21	Provincial Funding 36% Municipal Levy 64%	\$25,600	Currently Provided
HCA provides no additional programs (Category 2 or 3 – CA Specific) related to Natural Hazards						

Conservation Lands and Conservation Areas

<p>MECP is requesting that EACH program and service is categorized into one of 3 categories, as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mandatory programs and services (<i>defined in regulation; where municipal levy could be used without any agreement</i>) 2. Municipal programs and services. Programs and services at the request of a municipality (<i>with municipal funding through an MOU/agreement</i>) 3. Other programs and services. Programs and services an authority determines are advisable (<i>use of municipal levy requires an MOU/agreement with participating municipalities</i>) <p><i>*A program/service that is identified as mandatory is eligible but not required to receive municipal funding</i></p> <p><i>*More than one category may apply to programs</i></p>						
Program/Service and (subservices) <i>The Program/service is in bold and the subservice below.</i>	Description	Category 1 – Mandatory 2- Municipal 3- Other	Category classification concerns (Y* or N**) <i>*Document any concerns for submission to MECP</i> <i>**for Category 1 only; refer to section of O.Reg. 686/21 that applies as the required explanation</i>	Funding mechanism- % contributions (e.g., provincial, federal, municipal funding, municipal levy, and self-generated revenue).	Estimated Annual cost (based on 2022 budget figures or other amount with explanation)	Program/Service provided date (prior or post Feb 2022) (indicate present or future)
Conservation Authority Lands and Conservation Areas see 21.1 (1) 1 ii of the <i>Conservation Authorities Act</i> ; Sections 9-1 of the Mandatory Programs and Services Regulation O.R. 686/21						
CL1 Section 29 Minister’s regulation Rules for Conduct in Conservation Areas (O. Reg. 688/21)	Conservation areas enforcement/ compliance Legal expenses for regulation and compliance	1	N Section 9 O. R 686/21	Municipal Levy 40% Self-Generated Revenue 60%	\$222,100	Currently provided
CL2 Conservation Area Strategy NOTE: Strategy to be completed on or before December 31, 2024 per requirements in Section 10 of the Mandatory Programs and Services Regulation	Guiding principles, objectives, including for an authority’s land acquisition and disposition strategy, land use categories on conservation authority owned land, recommended management principles for different land categories, etc.	1	N Section 10 O. R 686/21	Municipal Levy	Cost to be determined for management plan	Strategy to be developed

CL3 Land Inventory NOTE: Inventory to be completed on or before December 31, 2024 per requirements in Section 11 of the Mandatory Programs and Services Regulation	Development of an inventory containing information for every parcel of land owned or controlled by the Authority.	1	N Section 11 O. R 686/21	Municipal Levy	Cost to be determined for management plan	Inventory to be created
CL4 Management, operation and Maintenance of CA owned lands	Management and Maintenance of HCA owned lands Includes: Stewardship and restoration, Master and management plans, hazard tree and invasive species management and, Ecological monitoring Programs and services to maintain any facilities, trails or other amenities that support public access and recreational activities in conservation areas and that can be provided without the direct support or supervision of staff employed by the authority or by another person or body	1,2	N Section 9 O. R 686/21	Capital block funding for major maintenance received from City of Hamilton 31% Municipal Levy 69%	\$3,190,300	Currently Provided
<i>Additional programs (Category 2 or 3 – CA Specific) related to CA Lands (e.g. a recreational activity is provided on the parcel that requires the direct support or supervision of staff employed by the authority or by another person or body, or commercial logging is carried out on the parcel)</i>						
CL5 Management, operation and maintenance of CA owned lands for active recreation	Management and maintenance of HCA owned lands in order to connect communities and residents with active outdoor recreation opportunities such as camp sites, marina, pavilions, boat rentals, concessions and	3	N	Self-Generated Revenue 88% Capital block funding for special projects received from City of Hamilton 12%	\$8,099,720	Currently Provided

	other assets that can be provided with the direct support or supervision of staff employed by the authority or by another person or body					
CL6 Outdoor Environmental Education	Program Development and Delivery	3	N	Self-Generated Revenue 100%	\$302,700	Currently Provided
CL7 Cultural Heritage Education and Experiences	Program Development and Delivery	2 and/or 3	N	Municipal levy 100% Municipal Agreement Required	\$623,600	Currently Provided
CL8 Land Lease and Agreement Management	Management of land leases and property agreements for agricultural leases and house rentals, as well as temporary third-party agreements on HCA owned or managed property for events, weddings, film shoots, day camps, group picnics, etc.	2, 3	N	Self-Generated Revenue 26% Mgmt. fee cost as per agreement with City of Hamilton for Confed Beach Park 74%	\$538,200	Currently Provided
CL9 Land Acquisition Program	Acquisition of lands containing important natural heritage features, or natural hazards or strategically aligned with existing HCA lands as identified in the Land acquisition and securement policy.	3	N	Self-Generated Revenue Reserves	The range of land acquisition cost in any given year in the last 5 years ranges from \$0 when no lands were acquired up to \$530K in 2021.	Currently Provided

CL10 Partnership Building and Volunteer Support	Development and management of mutually beneficial community partnerships, (e.g. “friends of” groups), agreements with First Nations (e.g. deer harvest) volunteer events (e.g. garbage pick-up, plantings, invasive species removal etc.) and collaboration and work with partners on shared goals and objectives (Cootes to Escarpment, Hamilton Burlington Trails Council, Bruce Trail Conservancy etc).	3	N	Self-Generated Revenue 100%	\$152,500	Currently Provided
CL11 Hamilton Conservation Foundation	Support for the foundation which raises awareness, funds and resources for HCA programs and services related to natural lands conservation, education and cultural heritage as well as special projects.	3	N	Self-Generated Revenue 100%	\$393,300	Currently Provided

Drinking Water Source Protection

MECP is requesting that EACH program and service is categorized into one of 3 categories, as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mandatory programs and services (<i>defined in regulation; where municipal levy could be used without any agreement</i>) 2. Municipal programs and services. Programs and services at the request of a municipality (<i>with municipal funding through an MOU/agreement</i>) 3. Other programs and services. Programs and services an authority determines are advisable (<i>use of municipal levy requires an MOU/agreement with participating municipalities</i>) <p><i>*A program/service that is identified as mandatory is eligible but not required to receive municipal funding</i></p> <p><i>*More than one category may apply to programs</i></p>						
Program/Service and (subservices) <i>The Program/service is in bold and the subservice below.</i>	Description	Category 1 – Mandatory 2- Municipal 3- Other	Category classification concerns (Y* or N**) <i>*Document any concerns for submission to MECP</i> <i>**for Category 1 only; refer to section of O.Reg. 686/21 that applies as the required explanation</i>	Funding mechanism- % contributions (e.g., provincial, federal, municipal funding, municipal levy, and self- generated revenue).	Estimated Annual cost (based on 2022 budget figures or other amount with explanation)	Program/ Service provided date (prior or post Feb 2022) (indicate present or future)
Drinking Water Source Protection see 21.1 (1) 1 iii of the <i>Conservation Authorities Act</i> ; Section 13 of the Mandatory Programs and Services Regulation O.R. 686/21						
DW1 Source protection authority role as set out in the Clean Water Act.	Source Protection Area/Region, tech support, SPC support, SPA reports and meetings, activities required by the Clean Water Act and regulations. Assisting in the co-ordination and implementation of the source protection plan that applies to the authority's source protection area. Where the authority considers it advisable, reviewing and commenting on any proposal made under another Act that is circulated to the authority for the purpose of determining,	1	N Section 13 O. R 686/21	Provincial Funding 100% Per agreement, All costs processed through Conservation Halton	\$0	Currently provided

	i. whether the proposal relates to a significant drinking water threat that is governed by the plan, or ii. the proposal’s potential impact on any drinking water sources protected by the plan.					
Additional programs (Category 2 or 3 – CA Specific) related to Drinking Water Source Protection						
DW2 Stewardship	Well decommissioning	2,3	N	Municipal levy/Municipal funding Municipal agreement required to formalize	Costs range year to year depending on number of private landowner applications	Currently provided

Water Quality & Quantity Monitoring

MECP is requesting that EACH program and service is categorized into one of 3 categories, as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mandatory programs and services (<i>defined in regulation; where municipal levy could be used without any agreement</i>) 2. Municipal programs and services. Programs and services at the request of a municipality (<i>with municipal funding through an MOU/agreement</i>) 3. Other programs and services. Programs and services an authority determines are advisable (<i>use of municipal levy requires an MOU/agreement with participating municipalities</i>) <p><i>*A program/service that is identified as mandatory is eligible but not required to receive municipal funding</i></p> <p><i>*More than one category may apply to programs</i></p>						
Program/Service and (subservices) <i>The Program/service is in bold and the subservice below.</i>	Description	Category 1 – Mandatory 2- Municipal 3- Other	Category classification concerns (Y* or N**) <i>*Document any concerns for submission to MECP</i> <i>**for Category 1 only; refer to section of O.Reg. 686/21 that applies as the required explanation</i>	Funding mechanism- % contributions (e.g., provincial, federal, municipal funding, municipal levy, and self- generated revenue).	Estimated Annual cost (based on 2022 budget figures or other amount with explanation)	Program/ Service provided date (prior or post Feb 2022) (indicate present or future)
Water Quality & Quantity Monitoring see 21.1 (1) 2 of the <i>Conservation Authorities Act</i> ; ; Section 12(2) and 12(3) of the Mandatory Programs and Services Regulation O.R. 686/21						
WQ1 Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network (PWQMN)	A long-standing (50+ year) CA/MECP partnership for stream water quality monitoring. CA takes water samples; MECP does lab analysis and data management	1	N Section 12 O. R 686/21	Municipal Levy 100%	\$130,300	Currently provided
WQ2 Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network (PGMN)	A long-standing (20+ year) CA/MECP partnership for groundwater level and quality monitoring. CA maintains equipment, data transfer to MECP, water sampling; MECP provides equipment, standards, data management.	1	N Section 12 O. R 686/21	Municipal Levy 100%	\$130,300	Currently provided

Additional programs (Category 2 or 3 – CA Specific) related to Water Quality & Quantity						
WQ3 Aquatic Monitoring Program – non-HCA lands	Aquatic monitoring on 3-year cycle basis (OBBN, temperature and fish collection.	2 and/or 3	Y This is a long-term monitoring program that also takes place on HCA lands and is addressed in CL4 above. The overall program is utilized by HCA, City of Hamilton and consultants and helps identify aquatic health on a watershed basis. If funding were not available for private lands aspect, it would impact the overall program, long term data collected and HCA’s ability to establish trends and assess overall aquatic watershed health.	Self-Generated 100% Municipal Agreement required for any consideration of funding	\$130,300	Currently provided
WQ4 Water Quality Monitoring - City	Water quality and erosion site monitoring for City of Hamilton City of Hamilton Groundwater Monitoring Well Inspections City of Hamilton Groundwater Monitoring Well Water Quality Sampling	2	N	Municipal Agreement 100%	\$56,000	Currently provided

	City of Hamilton E. Coli Sampling Program at PWQMN Sites Greensville Surface Water Monitoring					
WQ5 Water Quality Monitoring – COA and HHRAP	Water quality monitoring associated with tributaries to Cootes Paradise as part of COA and HHRAP monitoring	3	N	Provincial Funding- MECP	\$75,000	Currently provided

Core Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy

<p>MECP is requesting that EACH program and service is categorized into one of 3 categories, as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mandatory programs and services (<i>defined in regulation; where municipal levy could be used without any agreement</i>) 2. Municipal programs and services. Programs and services at the request of a municipality (<i>with municipal funding through an MOU/agreement</i>) 3. Other programs and services. Programs and services an authority determines are advisable (<i>use of municipal levy requires an MOU/agreement with participating municipalities</i>) <p><i>*A program/service that is identified as mandatory is eligible but not required to receive municipal funding</i></p> <p><i>*More than one category may apply to programs</i></p>						
Program/Service and (subservices) <i>The Program/service is in bold and the subservice below.</i>	Description	Category 1 – Mandatory 2- Municipal 3- Other	Category classification concerns (Y* or N**) <i>*Document any concerns for submission to MECP</i> <i>**for Category 1 only; refer to section of O.Reg. 686/21 that applies as the required explanation</i>	Funding mechanism- % contributions (e.g., provincial, federal, municipal funding, municipal levy, and self- generated revenue).	Estimated Annual cost (based on 2022 budget figures or other amount with explanation)	Program/ Service provided date (prior or post Feb 2022) (indicate present or future)
Core Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy see 21.1 (1) 2 of the <i>Conservation Authorities Act</i> ; Section 12(4)-(9) of the Mandatory Programs and Services Regulation O.R. 686/21						
CW1 Strategy Development NOTE: Strategy to be completed on or before December 31, 2024 per requirements in 12(4)-(9) of the Mandatory Programs and Services Regulation	Develop guiding principles and objectives that inform the design and delivery of programs and services the CA is required to provide Collate/compile existing resource management plans, watershed plans, studies and data. Strategy development, Implementation & annual reporting A review of programs and services provide for the purposes of compliance with CA Act Develop a process for periodic	1	N	Municipal levy	Cost to be determined for strategy development	Strategy to be developed. Some information currently provided in the form of HCA Strategic plan, HCA Annual reports and Watershed Reports cards. Future work required to incorporate all requirements.

	review including procedures to engage/ consult with stakeholders and the public. Strategy development must include a stakeholder and public consultation component The Watershed based resource management strategy must be made public on the CA website.					
Additional Programs/Services_(Category 2 & 3; CA specific)						
Watershed and Integrated Shoreline Management Planning/Science and Reporting						
CW2 Sub-watershed planning	Partner developed plan which identifies streams, wetlands, forests, groundwater recharge areas, and other natural areas. It includes an inventory of plants, animals, birds, and other species. Information on stream flows, water quality, groundwater movement and other natural features is also included. The plan contains policies and implementation actions to protect, enhance and improve the health of the area.	2and/or 3	N	Municipal Levy 100% Municipal Agreement required Projects undertaken Upon request		Undertaken previously and will be provided in the future upon request

CW3 Plan Review not Related to Natural Hazards	Technical information and advice to municipalities on circulated municipal land use planning applications (Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments, Subdivisions, Consents, Minor Variances).	2 and/or 3	N	Municipal Levy 100% Municipal Agreement required	\$229,100	Currently provided
CW4 Watershed Stewardship and Restoration (Urban, rural & Agriculture)	Apply for and manage external funding, promote private land stewardship, outreach, provide advice and design assistance to property owners. Implementation of watershed plan stewardship recommendations.	2 and/or 3	N	Municipal Levy 100% Municipal Agreement required	\$338,000	Currently provided
CW5 Climate change impact assessment /Planning and Policies	Identification of vulnerability or risk, and the development of mitigation and adaptation polices and corporate climate change initiatives	1 and/or 2 or 3	N Section 1 O.R 686/21	Municipal Levy 100% Municipal Agreement required for non-category 1 initiatives	\$129,900	Currently provided

Enabling Program Services

Enabling Program Services <i>NOTE: methodology for inclusion of these types of services will be finalized once Phase 2 regulations are released</i>	
Corporate Services	<i>Administrative, human resources, operating and capital costs which are not directly related to the delivery of any specific program or service, but are the overhead and support costs of a conservation authority.</i>
Financial Services	Accounting and payroll
Legal Expenses	Costs related to agreements/contracts, administrative by-law updates
Communications and Marketing	Supporting delivery of products and programs through communication platforms and promotion of revenue generating activities; websites creation and maintenance
Governance	Supporting CA Boards, Advisory Committees, Office of CEO/CAO/GM and Senior Management
Asset Management	Asset management planning, facilities & property management
Information Technology Management/ GIS	Data management, records retention. Development and use of systems to collect and store data and to provide spatial geographical representations of data.

List of Municipal MOU or Agreements for Category 2 Programs and Services

Details of Municipal Agreements

Ontario Regulations 687/21 - Transition Plans and Agreements for Programs and Services Under Section 21.1.2 of the Act
 Section 6 Subsection 5 requirements

- (5) For each Category 2 program or service listed in the inventory under clause (2) (a), the authority shall include the following information:
1. The name of the municipality on behalf of which the program or service is provided.
 2. The date on which the authority and the municipality entered into a memorandum of understanding or another agreement with respect to the provision of the program or service.
- NOTE:* Modified and/or additional MOUs will need to be negotiated with municipalities. Future updates to the Programs and Services Inventory listing will reflect the status of MOUs.

Programs & Services Inventory	Category 1-Mandatory 2-Municipal P&S 3-Other	Name of the Municipality	Description	Date Entered and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)/Agreement Status
NH3	2	City of Hamilton	Planning application and technical review services	March 1, 2013 – 2018 with renewal provision for a further 5 years
NH3	2	County of Wellington	Planning application and technical review services	November 1, 2017 – no expiry noted
WQ4	2	City of Hamilton	Water Monitoring Program Data Collection	July 2021 to June 2022
CL4	2	Town of Flamborough	Operation and Maintenance of Middletown Trail (LaFarge 2000 Trail)	July 16, 1999 – 50-year term
CL4	2	Town of Stoney Creek	Operation and Maintenance of Powerline Trail (Dofasco 2000 Trail)	December 14, 1999 – 50-year term
CL7	2	City of Hamilton	Westfield Heritage Village Ownership Agreement Funding Agreement	April 2015 To be undertaken
CL8	2	City of Hamilton	Confederation Beach Park Management Agreement	January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2026 with City provision to extend up to 2 additional & consecutive periods of 5 years each providing written notice
DW2	2 or 3	City of Hamilton	Well decommissioning	To be formalized / undertaken
WQ3	2 or 3	City of Hamilton	Aquatic monitoring program on non-HCA lands	To be undertaken
CW2	2 or 3	City of Hamilton & County of Wellington	Sub watershed planning	To be undertaken
CW3	2 or 3	City of Hamilton & County of Wellington	Plan review not related to natural Hazards	To be undertaken
CW4	2 or 3	City of Hamilton & County of Wellington	Watershed Stewardship and Restoration	To be undertaken
CW5	2 or 3	City of Hamilton & County of Wellington	Climate Change Impact/Planning and Policies	To be undertaken

Memorandum

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

DATE: February 3, 2022

RE: 2022 Schedule of Board of Directors Meetings

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 2022 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 3	Thursday July 7
Thursday March 3	Thursday September 1
Thursday April 7	Thursday October 6
Thursday May 5	Thursday November 3
Thursday June 2	Thursday December 1

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 2022 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 3, 2022

RE: Appointment of Voting Representatives to
Conservation Ontario

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

THAT the following members be appointed to Conservation Ontario for 2022:

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. During the pandemic, the meetings have been held virtually. For 2022 the meeting dates have been set for:

- Monday, April 11 (Annual General Meeting)
- Monday, June 20
- Monday, September 26
- Monday, December 12

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 3, 2022

RE: Appointment of Auditors

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

THAT the audit firm of Grant Thornton is appointed as the auditors Hamilton Conservation Authority for the year 2022.

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 review the statements of the Confederation Beach Park prepared as required by the Management Agreement between the HCA and the City of Hamilton.

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 2020 were \$45,000.00 which was the first year of the new contract of audit services spanning the years 2020 through 2024. Fees for the 2021 audit are set at \$45,900.

CONCLUSIONS

Grant Thornton has provided excellence service to HCA and there is no rationale to terminate the existing contract.

Memorandum

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

PREPARED BY: T. Scott Peck, MCIP, RPP, Deputy CAO/Director,
Watershed Planning & Engineering

Mike Stone, MCIP, RPP, Manager, Planning, Stewardship
& Ecological Services

MEETING DATE: February 3, 2022

RE: Annual Reporting on CA Permit Review Timelines –
January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021

BACKGROUND

In April 2019, Conservation Ontario (CO) Council endorsed the Conservation Ontario Client Service and Streamlining Initiative (CSSI). This initiative is intended to help support the Province's strategic objectives through improved client service and accountability among Conservation Authorities (CA).

As part of the CSSI, CO working in cooperation with its partner CA produced the *Guideline for Client Service Standards for Conservation Authority Plan and Permit Review*, which was endorsed by the CO Board of Directors in June 2019 (amended in December 2019). Included in this guideline are recommended service level targets for the review and issuance of CA permits under Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

Related to the implementation of service level targets, CO has asked Conservation Authorities in high growth areas to track review times for the issuance of Section 28 permits and to report these to CO annually. HCA staff presented permit review timelines for 2020 to the HCA Board of Directors on March 4, 2021. This report provides review timelines for permits issued in 2021, which are summarized in Attachment A.

STAFF COMMENT

HCA is committed to providing excellent client service, and we have a strong history of working cooperatively with our watershed municipalities, residents and businesses to ensure efficient and timely planning and regulatory review processes. As part of the CO CSSI, in September 2019, the HCA Board of Directors approved the HCA Client Service Standards Commitment, which includes targeted review times for the review and issuance of permits.

Section 28 Application Service Standard Guidance – MNRF and Conservation Ontario

HCA has tracked permit review timelines for many years, based on standards that were set by the province in 2010 (MNRF, Policies and Procedures for Conservation Authority Plan Review and Permitting Activities, May 2010). This policy directs that conservation authorities are to render an application decision regarding a permit within 90 days for a major application and 30 days for a minor application.

As part of a renewed commitment to efficient regulatory services through the CSSI, CO created a second document titled *Client Service Standards for Conservation Authority Plan and Permit Review (2019)*. This guidance established a second set of service standards that conservation authorities would strive to meet as a best practice. The new CO best-practice service standards provide for shorter review and approval time frames in comparison to the previous standards, representing a 52% reduction in the overall timeline for major permit applications and 42% for minor permit applications. Under this framework, Conservation Authorities would make a decision within 28 days for major applications and 21 days for minor applications

CO has requested that CAs track permit review times under both the 2010 and 2019 standards. The Annual Reporting on Timelines Template included in Attachment A reports on HCA's permit review times under both standards for January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021. Attachment A also includes a table comparing the 2010 and 2019 review time standards.

2021 Data and Results

HCA issued 99 permits in 2021, with 84% of issued permits meeting the 2010 standards and 51% meeting the 2019 standards. These represent similar results in comparison to 2020, when 92 permits were issued, 87% of which met the 2010 standards and 59% met the 2019 standards.

Permits that did not meet review time standards in 2021 can, in part, be attributed to complex applications that required more extensive consultation and review, or applications where incomplete submissions were received. Continued Covid-related/remote working conditions, along with reduced departmental staffing also contributed to longer review times and variances in meeting review time standards in 2021.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGE

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

- **Strategic Priority Area – Organizational Excellence**
 - Initiatives:
 - Continue to update and streamline operational policies and leverage technology to enhance business service delivery
 - Communicate both internally and externally about what HCA does and why

AGENCY COMMENTS

N/A

LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

CONCLUSIONS

HCA is tracking and reporting on its permit review timelines in support of Conservation Ontario's Client Service Streamlining Initiative. On-going tracking and reporting of permit review times will continue to allow HCA staff to identify trends in service delivery and adapt as necessary to ensure continued efficient client service and will be reported on annually to the Board of Directors and Conservation Ontario.

Attachment A

Table 3: Annual Reporting on Timelines for Permissions under Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* – Hamilton Conservation Authority, January 1 – December 31, 2021

Hamilton Conservation Authority	Number of Permits Issued Within Policy and Procedure Timeline ⁱ			Number of Permits Issued Outside of Policy and Procedure Timeline		
	Major		Minor	Major		Minor
	21		62	2		14
	Number of Permits Issued Within CO Guideline Timeline			Number of Permits Issued Outside of CO Guideline Timeline		
	Major	Minor	Routine	Major	Minor	Routine
	14	36		9	40	

ⁱ Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. *Policies and Procedures for Conservation Authority Plan Review and Permitting Activities*. 2010

Comparison of 2010 & 2019 Permit Review Time Standards

Permit Process Step	2010 Standards	2019 Standards
	MNRF Polices & Procedures	CO Client Service Guideline
Notification of Complete Application Requirements (Preconsultation)	All applications - 21 days	Major - 14 days Minor - 7 days
Notification of Complete Application	All applications - 21 days	Major - 21 days Minor - 14 days Routine - 10 days
Application Decision	Major - 90 days Minor - 30 days	Major - 28 days (30 days each resubmission) Minor - 21 days (15 days each resubmission) Routine - 14 days (7 days each resubmission)

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 Engineer

DATE: January 24, 2022

RE: Watershed Conditions Report

SYNOPSIS

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

In the next 2 weeks, no significant watercourse flooding is expected. In the next 9 days, no significant Lake Ontario shoreline flooding is expected.

Current flows at available gauges are near baseflows to slightly elevated above baseflows. Current and average January flows have been well below long-term averages.

The Lake Ontario mean daily water level in the Hamilton area is about 31 cm above average for this time of year.

Christie Lake levels are at the low end of typical winter levels. Valens Lake levels are currently not available, and connection issues are being addressed.

The latest drought assessment indicated normal watershed conditions. Drought conditions are not anticipated within the watershed, moving into February.

CURRENT WATERSHED CONDITIONS – January 24, 2022

Current Flows in Major Area Watercourses

There are no observations, reports, or expectations that significant watercourse flooding or significant public safety concerns are occurring at this time. Current flows at the five available streamflow gauges range from near baseflows to slightly elevated above baseflows. The five available streamflow gauges are: Upper Spencer Creek at Safari Road, Middle Spencer Creek at Highway 5, Lower Spencer Creek at Market Street, Ancaster Creek at Wilson Street, and Red Hill Creek at Barton Street.

Current flows are well below the long-term average monthly flows for January.

In addition, average monthly flows in January to date have been well below the long-term average monthly flow for January.

The average monthly flows in December 2021 were well above the long-term average December flows. The average monthly flows in November 2021 were well above the long-term average November flows at all but the Red Hill Creek at Barton gauge, where average monthly flows were well below the long-term average. The average monthly flows in October 2021 were well above the long-term average October flows. The average monthly flows in September 2021 were also well above the long-term average September flows. The average monthly flows in August 2021 were near to slightly below the long-term average August flows. The average monthly flows in July 2021 were generally significantly above the long-term average July flows. Conversely, for January to June 2021, in general the average monthly flows were significantly below the long-term average monthly flows.

Current Lake Ontario Water Levels

At this time, there are no observations, reports or expectations of significant Lake Ontario shoreline flooding. The Lake Ontario mean daily water level in the Hamilton area is approximately 74.89 m IGLD85. This is about 31 cm above average for this time of year.

Current Storages in HCA Reservoirs

The current reservoir level at Christie Lake dam (about 765.35 ft) is near the low end of typical winter levels (765.30 – 765.80 ft). The reservoir is at 18 percent of its preferred maximum storage capacity (corresponding to a water level of 773.0 ft).

There are currently connection issues with the Valens Lake dam gauge, and reservoir levels are not available at this time. Connection issues are being addressed.

Current Soil Conditions

The surface and root-zone soils are currently moist to wet and fully frozen.

RECENT STORM EVENTS

During the recent period November 22, 2021 to January 24, 2022, there were no observations or reports of significant watercourse flooding events or public safety concerns, nor Lake Ontario shoreline flooding events.

RECENT WATERSHED LOW WATER CONDITIONS

For the latest drought assessment (which includes data up to the end of December), the 1- and 3-month precipitation totals both indicated normal conditions within the watershed, based on data at 8 available stations. Current and recent 30-day average streamflows also all indicated normal conditions within the watershed, based on data at 5 available stations.

FORECASTED WATERSHED CONDITIONS

Watercourse Flooding

There are currently no significant rainfall events (+20 mm in a day) or snowmelt events 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 precipitation and snowmelt are not expected to result in significant watercourse flooding.

Lake Ontario Shoreline Flooding

In the next 9 days, no significant Lake Ontario shoreline flooding is expected. According to International Lake Ontario – St. Lawrence River Board information, it is likely that the water level of Lake Ontario will continue to rise slightly over the next couple of weeks, which is typical for this time of year. The rate and magnitude of water level changes will depend largely on received precipitation amounts and temperatures.

Watershed Low Water Conditions

Drought conditions are not anticipated within the watershed, moving into February. However, actual watershed conditions will be largely dependant on the amount of precipitation received.

