



# Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Thursday June 5, 2025



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## **Board of Directors Meeting**

**Thursday, June 5, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Hamilton Conservation Authority is now conducting meetings in a hybrid format via an in-person and WebEx platform.**

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

### **1. Call to Order**

– Brad Clark

#### **1.1. Land Acknowledgement**

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

### **3. Approval of Agenda**

### **4. Delegations**

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

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| 5.1. Permit Applications Summary Report   | Page 1  |
| 5.2. Approval of Board of Directors Minutes – April 3, 2025                                 | Page 9  |
| 5.3. Approved – February 27, 2025 Conservation Advisory Board Minutes – for receipt only    | Page 15 |
| 5.4. Approved – March 25, 2025 Budget & Administration Committee Minutes – for receipt only | Page 21 |
| 5.5 2025 Tar and Chip Tender Email Poll Results – April 29, 2025                            | Page 27 |

### **6. Foundation Briefing**

Foundation Chair – Kathy Lacasse

## **7. Member Briefing**

7.1 Cheque & Verbal Presentation Friends of Westfield to Foundation – Jeremy Schofield

## **8. Business Arising from the Minutes**

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

9.1. Budget & Administration Committee – May 15, 2025 – Susan Fielding  
(Recommendations)

9.1.1. BA 2516 Canadian Supplies and Suppliers – Update Page 31

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

### Memorandums to be received

10.1. ERO Comments re: Special Economic Zones, Endangered Species Act and Species Conservation Act – Scott Peck Page 35

10.2. Watershed Conditions Memorandum – Jonathan Bastien Page 43

10.3. Conservation Areas Experiences – Brandon Good Page 49

## **11. New Business**

## **12. In-Camera Items**

12.1. Confidential Report – BD/June 01-2025  
(Land Matter)

12.2. Confidential Memorandum - BD/June02-2025  
(Property/Legal Matter)

## **13. Next Meeting – Thursday, July 3, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.**

## **14. Adjournment**

**Report to:** Board of Directors

**Approved for Circulation By:** Lisa Burnside, CAO

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

**Prepared By:** Mike Stone, MCIP, RPP, Senior Manager, Watershed Planning, Stewardship & Ecological Services

**Meeting Date:** June 5, 2025

**Subject:** Permit Applications Summary Report

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HCA permit applications approved by staff under the *Conservation Authorities Act* and Ontario Regulation 41/24 between the dates of March 22, 2025 and May 22, 2025 are summarized in the following Permit Applications Summary Report (PASR-4/25).

## RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board of Directors receive this Permit Application Summary Report PASR-4/25 as information.

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**HAMILTON REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

**PERMIT APPLICATION SUMMARY REPORT (PASR 4/25)**

**HCA permit applications approved under the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 41/24 between the dates of March 22, 2025 - May 22, 2025**

File Number	Date Received	Date Permit Issued	Review Days	Applicant Name	Location	Application Description	Recommendation / Conditions
H/F,C/25/16	12-Mar-25	24-Mar-25	14		1411 and 1415 Upper Wellington St Lot 12, Concession 7 Hamilton	for the construction of a long-term care home and parking area	Approved subject to standard conditions.
SC/F,C,A/24/06	28-Feb-25	31-Mar-25	30		478 McNeilly Rd Lot 8,9, Concession BF Stoney Creek	for the construction of an armour stone revetment for shoreline protection	Approved subject to standard conditions.
SC/F,C,A/24/07	28-Feb-25	31-Mar-25	30		484 Millen Rd Lot 18,19, Concession BF Stoney Creek	for the construction of an armour stone revetment for shoreline protection	Approved subject to standard conditions.
D/F/25/21	26-Feb-25	02-Apr-25	36		47 Tally Ho Dr Lot 50, Concession 1 Dundas	for the replacement of an exisitng deck	Approved subject to standard conditions.
F/C/25/17	17-Mar-25	09-Apr-25	10		621 Highway No. 8 Lot 25, Concession 3 Flamborough	for the construction of an addition to an existing building	Approved subject to standard conditions.

**HAMILTON REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

**PERMIT APPLICATION SUMMARY REPORT (PASR 4/25)**

**HCA permit applications approved under the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 41/24 between the dates of March 22, 2025 - May 22, 2025**

F/F,C,A/24/82	20-Mar-25	14-Apr-25	47		771 Safari Rd Lot 8, 9, Concession 6, 7 Flamborough	for culvert replacement and associated works	Approved subject to standard conditions.
SC/C/25/27	11-Apr-25	17-Apr-25	11		77 Donn Ave Lot 24, Concession 3 Stoney Creek	for the construction of an addition	Approved subject to standard conditions.
SC/F,C/25/26	15-Apr-25	23-Apr-25	10		34 Battlefield Dr Lot 26, Concession 4 Stoney Creek	for the construction of an inground pool and concrete deck	Approved subject to standard conditions.
F/F,C,A/25/30	22-Apr-25	24-Apr-25	4		952 Brock Rd Lot 7, Concession 5 Flamborough	for the alteration of a watercourse and construction of an addition to an existing accessory structure	Approved subject to standard conditions.
H/F,C,A/25/23	03-Apr-25	24-Apr-25	35		Red Hill Valley Parkway, behind 167 Pottruff Rd Lot 30, Concession 2 Hamilton	for the sediment berm repairs at SWMF 113	Approved subject to standard conditions.



**HAMILTON REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

**PERMIT APPLICATION SUMMARY REPORT (PASR 4/25)**

**HCA permit applications approved under the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 41/24 between the dates of March 22, 2025 - May 22, 2025**

SC/F,C/25/25	11-Apr-25	30-Apr-25	19		East of 901 Arvin Ave Lot 9, Concession 1 Stoney Creek	for the road resurfacing, construction of a sidewalk, and associated works	Approved subject to standard conditions.
H/C/25/29	11-Apr-25	30-Apr-25	21		420 Greenhill Ave Lot 31, Concession 5 Hamilton	for the parking garage concrete repairs and waterproofing	Approved subject to standard conditions.
H/F,C/24/72	23-Oct-24	30-Apr-25	24		30 Mayfair Cres Lot 57, Concession 1 Hamilton	for the repairs to an existing retaining wall	Approved subject to standard conditions.
P/F,C,A/25/19	24-Mar-25	30-Apr-25	39		Gore Rd, 500m east of Valens Rd Lot 28, 26, Concession Gore, 10 Puslinch	for the replacement of an existing culvert	Approved subject to standard conditions.
SC/F,C,A/25/36	14-Apr-25	08-May-25	26		20 Concession Rd Lot 3, Concession 3 Stoney Creek	for the alteration of a watercourse and construction of a single dwelling	Approved subject to standard conditions.
F/F,C,A/25/28	15-Apr-25	12-May-25	29		Highway 5 W Lot 17, Concession 2 Flamborough	for the ditching and associated works along Harvest Rd	Approved subject to standard conditions.

**HAMILTON REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

**PERMIT APPLICATION SUMMARY REPORT (PASR 4/25)**

**HCA permit applications approved under the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 41/24 between the dates of March 22, 2025 - May 22, 2025**

SC/F,C,A/25/22	07-Apr-25	15-May-25	40		615 Barton St Lot 15, Concession 1 Stoney Creek	for the construction of a two-storey private cultural club and associated parking, covered patio, and site alteration	Approved subject to standard conditions.
H/F,C,A/25/07	14-Feb-25	15-May-25	30		386 Wilcox St Lot , Concession Hamilton	for the improvements to the existing vessel mooring platform and stair construction	Approved subject to standard conditions.
F/F,C,A/25/32	15-Apr-25	20-May-25	37		1435 Governors Rd Lot , Concession Flamborough	for the replacement of culvert FLA-54610	Approved subject to standard conditions.
D/F,C,A/25/35	15-Apr-25	20-May-25	37		781 Governors Rd Lot 6, Concession 1 Dundas	for the replacement of culvert DUN-56982	Approved subject to standard conditions.
F/F,C,A/25/33	15-Apr-25	21-May-25	37		1128 Concession 5W Lot 36, Concession 4 Flamborough	for the replacement of culverts FLA-203 and FLA-204	Approved subject to standard conditions.

**HAMILTON REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

**PERMIT APPLICATION SUMMARY REPORT (PASR 4/25)**

**HCA permit applications approved under the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 41/24 between the dates of March 22, 2025 - May 22, 2025**

A/F,C,A/25/31	17-Apr-25	21-May-25	36		Slote Rd ROW 110m south of 789 Slote Rd driveway Lot 32, 33, Concession 1 Ancaster	for the replacement of culvert ANC-142	Approved subject to standard conditions.
F/C/25/37	07-May-25	22-May-25	16		1588 Westover Rd Lot 31, Concession 8 Flamborough	for the construction of a detached deck in the rear and side yard	Approved subject to standard conditions.

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## Hamilton Region Conservation Authority

### Minutes

### Board of Directors Meeting

**April 3, 2025**

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on Thursday, April 3, 2025 at 6:00 p.m., at the HCA main office, 838 Mineral Springs Road, in Ancaster, and livestreamed on YouTube.

**PRESENT:**

<b>Brad Clark – in the Chair</b> <b>Craig Cassar</b> <b>Susan Fielding – Virtual</b> <b>Alex Wilson – Virtual</b>	<b>Lisa DiCesare – Virtual</b> <b>Wayne Terryberry – Virtual</b> <b>Maureen Wilson – Virtual</b>
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**Kathy Lacasse – Foundation Chair - Virtual**

**REGRETS:**           **Jeff Beattie, Matt Francis , Brian McHattie and Mike Spadafora**

**STAFF PRESENT:** **Jonathan Bastien, Lisa Burnside, Gord Costie, Marlene Ferreira, Scott Fleming, Liam Fletcher, Brandon Good, Rob Gray, Matt Hall, Amanda Martin, Scott Peck, Mike Stone, Jaime Tellier, Sandra Winninger**

**OTHERS:**           **None**

#### **1. Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present. HCA's Indigenous Land Acknowledgement was read.

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

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

#### **3. Approval of Agenda**

The Chair requested any additions or deletions to the agenda; there were no additions.



**BD12, 3476****MOVED BY: Craig Cassar  
SECONDED BY: Wayne Terryberry****THAT the agenda be approved.****CARRIED****4. Delegations**

There were none.

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

The following consent items were adopted:

- 5.1. Permit Applications Summary Report
- 5.2. Approval of Board of Directors Minutes – March 6, 2025
- 5.3. Approved November 26, 2024 Budget & Administration Committee Minutes – for receipt only

**6. Foundation Briefing**

Kathy Lacasse reported on the following:

The Foundation, received a total of \$61,000 in new donations from March 1st to March 31st 2025. This includes a \$20,000 gift from Darling Ingredients in support of Outdoor Environmental Education, and \$20,000 from ArcelorMittal Dofasco through their Corporate Community Investment Fund in support of Invasive Species mapping. Other gifts were allocated to the Tribute Tree and Benches Fund, Dundas Valley Trails and the Area of Greatest Needs. This brings the fiscal year-to-date fundraising total to \$232,500 which is 28% of the Foundation's goal. Plans are underway for the Foundation's Annual General Meeting which will take place May 12, 2025.

**BD12, 3477****MOVED BY: Maureen Wilson  
SECONDED BY: Lisa DiCesare****THAT the Foundation Briefing be received.****CARRIED**

## 7. Member Briefing

### 7.1. 2024 HCA Annual Report

Lisa Burnside provided the Members and overview of the HCA's 2024 Annual Report, indicating that many of the strategic goals were accomplished during the six years of the 2019 – 2024 Strategic Plan. She indicated that the report will be sent to local MPPs and, once the Federal election is done, local MPs

**BD12, 3478**

**MOVED BY:**

**SECONDED BY:**

**THAT the Member Briefing be received.**

**CARRIED**

## 8. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was none.

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

### 9.1. Budget & Administration Committee – March 26, 2025 (Recommendations)

#### 9.1.1. BA 2506 HCA Administrative By-laws Update

Alex Wilson brought forward the staff report and provided an overview of the suggested changes to the Administrative By-laws as well as to the Section 28 Hearing Guidelines.

**BD12, 3479**

**MOVED BY:**

**SECONDED BY:**

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

**THAT the Administrative By-Law and Hearing Guidelines be amended with the revisions noted in the attached draft, subject to and including any further revisions as noted during the March 25, 2025 meeting.**

**CARRIED**

**10. Other Staff Reports/Memoranda****10.1. Watershed Conditions Report**

Jonathan Bastien presented a summary of the memorandum, highlighting that there weren't any significant watercourse flooding events nor were there any Lake Ontario shoreline flooding events. It was noted that there were three rain and snowmelt events that warranted issuing messages and additional monitoring of watercourse conditions. It was also indicated that there are currently two potential rain events (+20 mm in a day) forecasted for the watershed over the next 2 weeks, on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>; conditions will be monitored by staff and flood messaging will be issued as warranted.

**BD12, 3480****MOVED BY: Lisa DiCesare  
SECONDED BY: Wayne Terryberry****THAT the memorandum entitled Watershed Conditions Report be received.****CARRIED****10.2. Conservation Areas Services Update**

Liam Fletcher provided a summary of the memorandum indicating that the conservation areas are preparing for the upcoming spring season which includes opening outdoor facilities as well as the annual boat-lift at Fifty Point. It was also noted the HCA has partnered with Trees for Hamilton to plant approximately 600 trees this spring and fall at various conservation areas and Confederation Beach Park.

**BD12, 3481****MOVED BY: Maureen Wilson  
SECONDED BY: Lisa DiCesare****THAT the memorandum entitled Conservation Areas Experiences Update be received.****CARRIED****11. New Business**

There was none.

**12. In-Camera Items****BD12, 3482****MOVED BY: Craig Cassar  
SECONDED BY: Susan Fielding**

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

**CARRIED**

**During the *in-camera* session, three Land matters were discussed.**

**12.1. Confidential Report – BD/Apr 01-2025**

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

**BD12, 3483**

**MOVED BY: Alex Wilson**

**SECONDED BY: Lisa DiCesare**

**THAT Confidential Report BD/Apr 01-be approved and remain in camera.**

**CARRIED**

**12.2 Confidential Report – BD/Apr 02-2025**

Scott Peck provided a summary of the report regarding a land matter and answered member's questions.

**BD12, 3484**

**MOVED BY: Craig Cassar**

**SECONDED BY: Wayne Terryberry**

**THAT Confidential Report BD/Apr 02-2025 be approved and remain in camera.**

**CARRIED**

**12.3 Confidential Report – BD/April 03-2025**

Scott Peck reviewed the report regarding a land matter and answered member's questions.

**BD12, 3485**

**MOVED BY: Alex Wilson**

**SECONDED BY: Maureen Wilson**

**THAT Confidential Report BD/Apr 03-2025 be approved remain in camera.**

**CARRIED**

**BD12, 3486**

**MOVED BY: Craig Cassar**

**SECONDED BY: Lisa DiCesare**

**THAT the Board of Directors moves out of closed session.**

**CARRIED**

### **13. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, May 1, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the HCA Main Administration Office – Woodend Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, Ontario.

### **14. Adjournment**

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

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Scott Fleming  
Secretary-Treasurer



# HAMILTON CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

## Conservation Advisory Board

### MINUTES

**February 27, 2025**

Minutes of the Conservation Advisory Board meeting held on Thursday, February 27, 2025 at 4:00 p.m., via video conference and livestreamed on YouTube.

**PRESENT:**

<b>Wayne Terryberry – in the Chair</b>	
<b>Craig Cassar</b>	<b>Elise Copps</b>
<b>Tyler Cunningham</b>	<b>Natalie Faught</b>
<b>Jamie Freeman</b>	<b>Haley McRae</b>
<b>Sherry O'Connor</b>	<b>Cortney Oliver</b>
<b>Noah Stegman</b>	

**Susan Fielding – Ex-Officio**

**REGRETS:**

**STAFF PRESENT:**

**Rondalyn Brown, Lisa Burnside, Gord Costie, Lindsay Davidson, Liam Fletcher, Marlene Ferreira, Brandon Good, Matt Hall, Peter Lloyd, Amanda Martin, Scott Peck, Jaime Tellier, and Sandra Winninger**

**OTHERS:**

**None**

#### 1. Welcome

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

#### 2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

The Chair asked members to declare any conflicts under the HCA Administrative By-law. There were none.

#### 3. Approval of Agenda

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

**CA2501            MOVED BY: Natalie Faught  
                      SECONDED BY: Haley McRae**

**THAT the agenda be approved.**

**CARRIED**

#### **4. Delegations**

There were none.

#### **5. Election of Vice Chair**

Wayne Terryberry called for nominations for the 2025 Vice-Chair for the Conservation Advisory Board.

**Nominated: Sherry O'Connor  
By – Mover: Natalie Faught**

The Chair called for nominations twice more. Having no further nominations, he asked Sherry O'Connor if she accept the nomination. The election for the office of Vice Chair of the Conservation Advisory Board for 2025 was then closed and the position acclaimed with the following resolution.

**CA 2502            MOVED BY: Natalie Fraught  
                      SECONDED BY: Cortney Oliver**

**THAT nominations for the 2025 Vice-Chair of HCA Board of Directors be closed and Sherry O'Connor be confirmed as Vice-Chair of the Hamilton Conservation Advisory Board for 2025.**

**CARRIED**

#### **6. Member Briefing**

There was none.

#### **7. Chairman's Report on Board of Directors Actions**

Wayne Terryberry reported that the following items were approved at the Board of Director's Meeting held on February 6, 2025

- CA 2431      HCA Shoreline Management Plan  
CA 2432      HCA Floodplain Mapping Projects – Status Update

## **8. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

### **8.1. Minutes – Conservation Advisory Board (December 12, 2024)**

**CA 2503            MOVED BY: Noah Stegman  
                         SECONDED BY: Haley McRae**

**THAT the minutes of the December 12, 2024 Conservation  
Advisory Board meeting be approved.**

**CARRIED**

## **9. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was none.

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

### **Reports for Recommendation**

#### **10.1. Westfield Artifact Accessions for 2024**

Peter Lloyd reviewed the items to be accessioned at Westfield Heritage Village Conservation Area. The objects, along with the reason for acceptance into the artifact collection, were highlighted for members.

**CA 2504            MOVED BY: Cortney Oliver  
                         SECONDED BY: Elise Copps**

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

**THAT the Westfield 2024 Artifact Accessions List be accepted  
as the artifacts to be added to the Westfield Heritage Village  
Conservation Area and the Hamilton Conservation Authority  
collection.**

**CARRIED**

#### **10.2 HCA Open Data Portal**

Jamie Tellier provided an overview of the report and answered members' questions.

**CA 2505            MOVED BY: Jamie Freeman  
                         SECONDED BY: Noah Stegman**

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

**THAT the platform for HCA's Open Data Portal and initial datasets for publication, as outlined in this report dated February 27, 2025, be approved.**

**CARRIED**

10.3 Check out the Great Outdoors: First Nations

Lindsay Davidson provided an overview of the report and answered members' questions.

**CA 2506            MOVED BY: Natalie Faught  
                         SECONDED BY: Noah Stegman**

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

**THAT HCA partner with First Nations libraries and community centres to deliver the *Check Out the Great Outdoors* Library Program.**

**CARRIED**

Memorandums to be Received

10.4 Easter Seals Canada – Access 2 Program

Liam Fletcher reviewed the memorandum and answered members' questions.

**CA 2507            MOVED BY: Tyler Cunningham  
                         SECONDED BY: Sherry O'Connor**

**THAT the Memorandum entitled Easter Seals Canada – Access 2 Program be received.**

**CARRIED**

10.5 Verbal Update – HCA Visitor Attendance

Brandon Good provided members with an overview of estimated visitor attendance

from 2024 and previous years. He noted that attendance includes information obtained from autogates as well as staffed gatehouses. Overall, while attendance has decreased from the height of the pandemic, it continues to be remain above pre-pandemic levels.

**CA 2508            MOVED BY: Tyler Cunningham**  
**SECONDED BY: Natalie Faught**

**THAT the verbal update entitled HCA Visitor Attendance be**  
**received.**

**CARRIED**

### **11. New Business**

There was none.

### **12. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the CAB is scheduled for Thursday, April 10, 2025 at 4:00 p.m., at the HCA Main Administration Office – Woodend Auditorium.

### **13. Adjournment**

On motion, the meeting was adjourned.



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# **Hamilton Conservation Authority**

## **Minutes**

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### **Budget & Administration Committee**

**March 25, 2025**

Minutes of the Budget & Administration Committee meeting held on Tuesday, March 25 at 2:00 p.m., fully virtual via WebEX, and livestreamed on YouTube.

**Present:** Susan Fielding, in the Chair  
Brad Clark  
Lisa DiCesare  
Alex Wilson  
Maureen Wilson

**Regrets:** None

**Staff Present:** Lisa Burnside, Gord Costie, Marlene Ferreira, Scott Fleming, Liam Fletcher, Rob Gray, Matt Hall, Amanda Martin, Mike Stone, Jaime Tellier, and Sandra Winninger

**Others Present:** None

#### **1. Welcome**

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

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

The Chair asked members to declare any conflicts under the HCA Administrative By-law. There were none.

#### **3. Approval of Agenda**

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

**BA 2501****MOVED BY: Alex Wilson  
SECONDED BY: Brad Clark****THAT the agenda be approved.****CARRIED****4. Delegations**

There were none.

**5. Election of Vice Chair**

Susan Fielding opened the call for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Budget & Administration Committee for 2025. Alex Wilson expressed interest in the position of Vice Chair.

Nominated: Alex Wilson  
By – Mover: Alex Wilson

Having no further nominations, the election for the office of Vice-Chair of the Budget & Administration Committee for 2025 was then closed and the position acclaimed with the following resolution.

**BA 2502****MOVED BY: Maureen Wilson  
SECONDED BY: Lisa DiCesare****THAT nominations for the 2025 Vice-Chair of HCA  
Budget and Administration Committee be closed and  
Alex Wilson be confirmed as Vice-Chair of the Hamilton  
Conservation Authority Budget & Administration  
Committee for 2025.****CARRIED****6. Consent Items**

The following consent items were adopted:

- 6.1 Approval of Budget & Administration Committee Minutes – November 26, 2024
- 6.2 Workplace Safety & Insurance Board (WSIB) Year-end Review Report
- 6.3 2024 Annual Statistical Reporting for Freedom of Information Requests

In response to a question, Jaime Tellier indicated that the FOIs are tracked on a spreadsheet and the HCA does not receive many requests during any given year.

## **7. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was none.

## **8. Staff Reports/Memoranda**

### Memorandums to be received

#### **8.1. HCA Q4 Financial Results**

Scott Fleming reviewed the memorandum and answered members' questions.

Following discussion and questions on rental properties, staff will provide further information to the Committee at a future meeting.

In response to a question in regard to use of municipal levy, Scott Fleming noted that it is directed to the core functions of the HCA and any unused amounts in watershed management services flow to offset central support services.

**BA 2503**

**MOVED BY: Lisa DiCesare  
SECONDED BY: Alex Wilson**

**THAT the Memorandum entitled HCA Q4 Financial Results - Operating be received, and further,**

**THAT staff provide an overview of HCA's rental properties at a future meeting.**

**CARRIED**

#### **8.2. HCA 2024 Twelve month Financial Results – Capital and Major Maintenance**

Matt Hall provided a visual presentation of capital and major maintenance projects that occurred during 2024. Rob Gray, the new Senior Manager of the Capital Projects and Strategic Services division, was introduced to members

**BA 2504**

**MOVED BY: Alex Wilson  
SECONDED BY: Maureen Wilson**

**THAT the Memorandum entitled HCA 2024 Twelve month Financial Results – Capital and Major Maintenance be received**

**CARRIED**

**8.3. HCA 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Vendor Report**

Scott Fleming presented the memorandum and answered members' questions.

**BA 2505**

**MOVED BY: Alex Wilson**

**SECONDED BY: Maureen Wilson**

**THAT the Memorandum entitled HCA 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Vendor Report received**

**CARRIED**

**Reports for Recommendation**

**8.4. Updates to HCA Administrative By-Law and Hearing Guidelines**

Jaime Tellier and Mike Stone provided an overview of the report, highlighting the changes proposed. It was noted that updates to the Hearing Guidelines were the result of the legislative changes to the Conservation Authorities Act which came into effect April 1, 2024. It was also noted that the updated By-laws and Hearing Guidelines follow the model by-laws provided by Conservation Ontario, with some specific adaptations to match HCA's practices, such as holding Hearings bi-monthly.

**BA 2506**

**MOVED BY: Brad Clark**

**SECONDED BY: Lisa DiCesare**

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

**THAT the Administrative By-Law and Hearing Guidelines be amended with the revisions noted in the attached draft, subject to and including any further revisions as noted during the March 25, 2025 meeting.**

**CARRIED**

**9. New Business**

There was none.



**10. In-Camera Items for Matters of Law, Personnel and Property****BA 2507****MOVED BY: Lisa DiCesare  
SECONDED BY: Alex Wilson****THAT the Budget and Administration Committee moves  
*in camera* for matters of law, personnel and property.****CARRIED****During the *in camera* session, one legal matter was discussed.****10.1. Confidential Verbal Update – BA/Mar 01-2025**

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

**BA 2508****MOVED BY: Alex Wilson  
SECONDED BY: Lisa DiCesare****THAT the confidential verbal update entitled BA/Mar 01-2025 be approved and remain in camera.****CARRIED****BA 2509****MOVED BY: Brad Clark  
SECONDED BY: Maureen Wilson****THAT the Budget and Administration Committee moves  
out of closed session.****CARRIED****11. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Budget and Administration Committee will be held on Thursday, April 17, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. at the HCA Main Administration Office – Woodend Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, Ontario.

**12. Adjournment**

On motion, the meeting adjourned.



**Report to:** Board of Directors

**Approved for Circulation By:** T. Scott Peck, MCIP, RPP Acting CAO

**Reviewed By:** Matt Hall, C.E.T., Director; Capital Projects & Strategic Services

**Prepared By:** Nicholas Oleschuk, Asset Management Coordinator  
Kyle Kuhn, Projects Designer

**Meeting Date:** May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025

**Subject:** 2025 Tar & Chip Road Resurfacing – Tender Results

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#### **Recommendation:**

**HCA Staff recommends to the Board of Directors:**

**THAT the construction tender for the 2025 Tar and Chip Road Resurfacing project, be awarded to Walker Construction Limited for a total cost of \$146,623.15 which includes a contingency sum and HST.**

#### **Executive Summary:**

This report contains project details on the 2025 Tar & Chip Resurfacing project scope and the official tender results received. The purpose of this report is to recommend its contract award to Walker Construction Limited following the public tender process.

#### **Staff Comment / Discussion:**

This project covers Tar & Chip Road Resurfacing for various Fifty Point Conservation Area roads that total approximately 9,600 m<sup>2</sup>, to help maintain and enhance this area. The priority areas selected were based upon annual road inspections conducted over 2024 and 2025. Previous HCA Tar & Chip road treatment work was most recently completed in 2024 within various Conservation Areas such as: Dundas Valley C.A, Eramosa Karst C.A, Devil's Punchbowl C.A, Fifty Point C.A and Confederation Beach Park.

In April 2025, HCA CaPSS staff developed and issued tender contract and specification documents for firms to consider. This Public Tender was issued on April 2nd, 2025 through the HCA's Bidding Tender website and issued directly to firms that have previously conducted this work for the HCA.

Tenders closed on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 at 2:00 PM. A summary of bid results received is as follows:

<b>Company Name</b>	<b>Necessary Bonding</b>	<b>Total Price (including tax and contingency)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Walker Construction Limited	Yes	\$ 146,623.15	Low Bid
Cornell Construction Limited	Yes	\$ 167,737.20	

This project is part of the HCA's standard maintenance program for Conservation Area road upkeep.

The anticipated schedule for this project is as follows:

April 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2025	Public Tender advertised and sent out.
April 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2025	Tender Closing @ 2:00 PM Eastern Standard Time
April 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2025	Tender Package Opening@ 2:05 PM Eastern Standard Time
May 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2025	Anticipated Tender Award
May 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	Anticipated Official Contract Commencement
June 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	Project Substantial Completion Deadline

It is anticipated that the scope of work will be substantially completed on or before June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025. HCA CaPSS staff will be actively involved in site review as the project progresses.

It is recommended that this contract be awarded to Walker Construction Limited located in Niagara Falls. They are a fully qualified and bonded, contracting firm that specializes in tar & chip and road maintenance projects. Recent, similar completed projects of theirs include tar & chip surface treatment projects with Norfolk County, Haldimand County, the Town of Lincoln, and the Town of Pelham.

### **Strategic Plan Linkage:**

The initiative refers directly to the HCA Strategic Plan 2025 – 2029:

- **Strategic Priority Area – Connecting People to Nature**

- Initiatives – Manage and enhance conservation lands utilising best management practices to support nature appreciation and recreation activities, as communities continue to grow and look to HCA's conservation areas to spend time in nature.

**Agency Comments:**

N/A

**Legal / Financial Implications:**

Sufficient funding for this work has been allocated within the HCA's 2025 Capital and Major Maintenance Budget. A contingency sum of \$15,000 for unforeseen issues during construction works has also been allocated for this project. This has been included in the prices listed above.

**Related Reports and Appendices:**

N/A

# Hamilton Conservation Authority

## Minutes

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### Board of Directors

An email poll was sent to the Board of Directors on April 24, 2025 for their approval in regard to a Tar and Chip Tender. The Board of Directors approved the following resolution.

**BD12, 3487**

**THAT the construction tender for the 2025 Tar and Chip Road Resurfacing project, be awarded to Walker Construction Limited for a total cost of \$146,623.15 which includes a contingency sum and HST.**

#### **RECORDED VOTE:**

**For:**

**Opposed: None**

**Jeff Beattie  
Craig Cassar  
Brad Clark  
Lisa DiCesare  
Susan Fielding  
Brian McHattie  
Mike Spadafora  
Wayne Terryberry  
Alex Wilson  
Maureen Wilson**

**CARRIED**

**Report to:** Budget & Administration Committee

**Approved for Circulation By:** Lisa Burnside, CAO

**Reviewed By:** Scott Fleming, Director, Finance and Central Support Services

**Prepared By:** Shara Keates, Finance Administrator

**Meeting Date:** May 15, 2025

**Subject:** Canadian Supplies and Suppliers - Update

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**Recommendation:**

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

**THAT staff be directed to amend the HCA Purchasing Policy to add a clause indicating preference for Canadian-owned vendors and sourcing Canadian materials and supplies.**

**Executive Summary:**

Following new trade tariffs applied by the United States (U.S.) government on many countries, including Canada, there is renewed interest in sourcing HCA's supplies and services within Canada.

At its meeting on March 6, 2025, the Board of Directors requested that staff review HCA's current procurement policy and report on the feasibility and implications of prioritizing Canadian supplies and suppliers.

Staff conducted a review of HCA's purchasing policy, along with an analysis of purchasing data over a two-year period (2023–2024), focusing specifically on vendor business registration addresses.

The results of the review indicate that the purchasing policy could be enhanced by including language that explicitly states a preference for Canadian supplies and suppliers. It was also found that the majority of HCA's purchases are already made through Canadian businesses and retailers.

**Staff Comment / Discussion:**

The procurement data reviewed focused on vendors who provided goods and services to HCA over the past two years. Each vendor was categorized as either a Canadian-owned company or a Canadian subsidiary of a company headquartered outside Canada.

In 2024, 93% of HCA's vendors were Canadian-owned companies. This figure increased to 98% when Canadian subsidiaries of foreign-owned firms were included in the evaluation criteria.

Similarly, in 2023, 95% of vendors were Canadian-owned, and 98% when subsidiaries were included.

For purchases exceeding \$10,000, 97% and 96% were made through Canadian-owned vendors in 2023 and 2024, respectively.

These findings demonstrate that HCA already exhibits a strong preference for local and Canadian-owned vendors. To formalize this practice, staff recommend revising the organization's purchasing policy to explicitly express a preference for Canadian firms in the procurement of goods and services. The intent is to strengthen support for domestic businesses, contribute to local economic growth, and ensure procurement decisions reflect HCA's commitment to sustainable and responsible sourcing.

That said, certain specialized industries and proprietary products continue to require international sourcing, particularly from the U.S., where Canadian alternatives are not currently available. For example, several essential software applications are procured from U.S.-based companies due to the absence of Canadian options. Additionally, in 2024, HCA purchased two electric pickup trucks—there are currently no electric pickup trucks assembled in Canada.

The majority of small purchases made through non-Canadian-owned vendors were limited to a select few suppliers. HCA will aim to reduce this number by actively seeking Canadian alternatives where available and practical.

**Strategic Plan Linkage:**

The initiative refers directly to the HCA Strategic Plan 2025 – 2029:

- **Strategic Priority Area – Organizational Excellence**

**Agency Comments:**

N/A



**Legal / Financial Implications:**

HCA has recently received notices from some U.S. vendors advising of price increases resulting from the trade tariffs. In response, HCA has begun searching for and pivoted to comparable Canadian vendors to maintain lower costs.

Full financial considerations resulting from the applied tariffs are currently unknown and difficult to quantify. Staff will continue to monitor prices for goods and services and will consider ways to mitigate such impacts.

**Related Reports and Appendices:**

N/A

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**Memorandum to:** Board of Directors

**Approved for Circulation By:** Lisa Burnside, CAO

**Reviewed & Prepared By:** T. Scott Peck, MCIP, RPP, Deputy CAO/Director, Watershed Management Services

**Meeting Date:** June 5, 2025

**Subject:** ERO 025-0391 – Special Economic Zones  
ERO 025-0380 - Proposed interim changes to the Endangered Species Act, 2007 and a proposal for the Species Conservation Act, 2025

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### Executive Summary:

This memorandum summarizes Conservation Ontario's responses to two Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) postings:

- ERO 025-0391 – *Special Economic Zones*, and
- ERO 025-0380 – *Proposed interim changes to the Endangered Species Act, 2007 and a proposal for the Species Conservation Act, 2025*.

The submission for ERO 025-0391 emphasizes the continued need for natural hazard and source water protection within Special Economic Zones. The submission for ERO 025-0380 highlights the alignment between species protection, ecosystem resilience, and overall social and economic well-being and supports new funding and collaborative opportunities to advance species-at-risk protection and conservation efforts.

Given the content of these proposals and the limitations placed on Conservation Authorities regarding natural heritage planning and broader policy development, HCA staff have not submitted separate comments. Instead, staff support the submissions made by Conservation Ontario.

### Staff Comment / Discussion

#### ERO 025-0391 – Special Economic Zones

The proposed *Special Economic Zones Act, 2025* would grant the Province authority to designate geographic areas that may benefit from exemptions or modifications to legislative and regulatory requirements, including municipal by-laws, to accelerate development.

Conservation Ontario's response highlights the critical importance of maintaining Ontario's natural hazard regulatory framework and source water protection policies within these zones. The comments note that Conservation Authorities bring decades of expertise in balancing development with public safety, particularly related to flood hazard management and drinking water protection. The submission stresses that maintaining these protections is essential to the long-term success of development, housing, and infrastructure initiatives.

### **ERO 025-0380 – Proposed Changes to the Endangered Species Act and the Species Conservation Act, 2025**

This posting proposes the eventual repeal of the *Endangered Species Act, 2007* and the introduction of the *Species Conservation Act, 2025*, which would include a shift to a registration-first model for authorizations and the creation of a new *Species Conservation Program* to support voluntary conservation actions.

Conservation Ontario's submission highlights the alignment between species protection, ecosystem resilience, and overall social and economic well-being. Importantly, the submission recognizes the role of Conservation Authorities as major landowners and environmental stewards, ready to partner on targeted conservation efforts, subject to eligibility for funding. It also notes supports the proposed funding increase of up to \$20 million annually to enable broader habitat preservation, enhancement, and outreach initiatives.

#### **Strategic Plan Linkage:**

The initiative refers directly to the HCA Strategic Plan 2025 – 2029:

- **Strategic Priority Area – Organizational Excellence**
  - Uphold our ties to federal, provincial, and municipal partners to work together to advance conservation efforts.

#### **Agency Comments:**

Conservation Ontario's comments are attached as Schedule A and Schedule B. Additionally, CO General Manager spoke at Standing Committee on May 26, 2025, emphasizing the importance of having natural hazards an ongoing aspect of our permitting role.

**Legal / Financial Implications:**

Not applicable

**Related Reports and Appendices:**

Schedule A	Conservation Ontario Comments - ERO 025-0391 – Special Economic Zones
Schedule B	Conservation Ontario Comments - ERO 025-0380 - Proposed interim changes to the Endangered Species Act, 2007 and a proposal for the Species Conservation Act, 2025

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# Schedule A

May 17, 2025

Via Email: [specialeconomiczones@ontario.ca](mailto:specialeconomiczones@ontario.ca)

**Re: Conservation Ontario's comments on the "Special Economic Zones Act, 2025" (ERO#025-0391)**

Bill 5, the *Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act, 2025* proposes to amend existing and enact new legislation, including the *Special Economic Zones Act, 2025*. Upon proclamation, the *Special Economic Zones Act* will provide regulation-making authorities to the Lieutenant Governor in Council (LGIC) and applicable Minister to make criteria for and to designate "special economic zones", "trusted proponents", and "designated projects".

Once established, designated projects undertaken by trusted proponents in special economic zones may receive exemptions or modifications to specified legislative or regulatory permitting, approvals, or other similar requirements. The proposed legislation may apply in any area of Ontario, and to any provincial Act, regulation or instrument, including municipal by-laws.

Conservation Ontario and the 36 Conservation Authorities (CAs) share the government's commitment to identify process improvements and provide timely approvals to support development priorities. We are committed to supporting a strong provincial economy, safe housing and critical infrastructure development, and safeguarding sources of municipal drinking water. CAs are dedicated to providing client service excellence for all development proponents.

Providing strong protections for people and property from risks related to natural hazards and existing and future sources of municipal drinking water are essential to support economic development and safe and prosperous communities. Conservation Ontario recommends that natural hazard permitting requirements under the *Conservation Authorities Act* and policies set out in the source protection plan under the *Clean Water Act* continue to apply in any designated special economic zones. The continued application of these regulations and policies will balance potential risks and further support safe and healthy communities.

Ontario's natural hazard regulatory framework is essential to protect housing, critical infrastructure, and the public from natural hazard impacts, including flooding and erosion. The success of Ontario's hazard management framework and the Conservation Authority

model is recognized for minimizing flood hazard risks to housing compared to other provinces, resulting in considerably lower insurable losses. This coordinated and hazard/risk-based framework is strongly supported by Ontario's Special Advisor on Flooding in their report "*An Independent Review of the 2019 Flood Events in Ontario*".

Conservation Authorities play a critical role in the protection of sources of municipal drinking water as Source Protection Authorities (SPAs) under the *Clean Water Act*. Lead SPAs are responsible for developing, updating and assisting in the coordination and implementation of the source protection plan(s) to protect existing and future sources of drinking water. All Source Protection Plans are approved by the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks.

The *Clean Water Act* appropriately establishes a high standard for the protection of drinking water quality and quantity and requires that in case of conflict between a provision of that Act and another Act or regulation, that the provision that provides the greatest protection to the quality and quantity of the water prevails. Maintaining this requirement under the *Clean Water Act* is necessary to ensure the strongest available legislative and regulatory protection is applied to safeguard drinking water quantity and quality. This multi-barrier approach to ensuring the safety of Ontario's drinking water was strongly supported by Commissioner O'Connor in the 2002 "*Report of the Walkerton Inquiry*".

Conservation Authority staff bring decades of specialized expertise balancing development pressures and finding local solutions to complex matters. Both Conservation Ontario and Ontario's 36 CAs welcome opportunities to strategically collaborate with provincial and municipal governments to ensure provincial development priorities are planned and implemented safely, supporting long-term economic prosperity and a healthy environment.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comments on the "Special Economic Zones Act, 2025" (ERO#025-0391). We would be pleased to further discuss these comments at your convenience.

Sincerely,

*Dave Barton*

Dave Barton  
Chair, Conservation Ontario

*Angela Coleman*

Angela Coleman  
Chief Administrative Officer / General  
Manager, Conservation Ontario

c.c. All CA CAOs/GMs





# Schedule B

May 15, 2025

Public Input Coordinator – Species at Risk Protection  
Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Species at Risk Branch  
40 St. Clair Avenue West,  
Toronto, ON  
M4V 1M2

**Re: Conservation Ontario's comments on "Proposed interim changes to the Endangered Species Act, 2007 and a proposal for the Species Conservation Act, 2025" (ERO#025-0380)**

Bill 5, the *Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act, 2025* proposes interim amendments to the *Endangered Species Act, 2007* (*ESA, 2007*), and later repeals the *ESA, 2007* and enacts the new *Species Conservation Act, 2025* (*SCA, 2025*), once proclaimed.

Conservation Ontario supports the connection between species at risk (SAR) protection, ecosystem resilience, and social and economic well-being.

The proposed interim amendments and enactment of the *SCA, 2025*, remove the requirement for the Province to prepare recovery strategies, management plans, and government response statements. As part of the proposed *SCA, 2025*, the Province reaffirmed a commitment to invest in SAR conservation through the new Species Conservation Program.

This program replaces the Species at Risk Stewardship Program and increases funding to support voluntary SAR protection and conservation activities by up to \$20 million per year. As proposed, the new program would support a wider breadth of conservation activities, including SAR habitat preservation, rehabilitation and enhancement, public education and outreach programs, and other activities to assist in the protection and conservation of species.

Conservation Ontario supports the Province's collaboration with partners and agencies to facilitate timely, targeted, on-the-ground activities contributing to SAR recovery and habitat protection. Conservation Authorities are collectively the second-largest landowner in the Province of Ontario, owning and managing a diverse portfolio of natural landscapes that support, among other objectives, SAR and their habitats. Through the proposed Species

Conservation Program, and given eligibility for funding, Conservation Authorities stand ready to prioritize activities that protect and conserve SAR and their habitat, while contributing to species recovery.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comments on "Proposed interim changes to the Endangered Species Act, 2007 and a proposal for the Species Conservation Act, 2025" (ERO#025-0380). Conservation Ontario and Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities look forward to opportunities to work alongside the Province and other partners to provide continued protection, conservation and recovery for SAR and their habitat in Ontario. We would be pleased to further discuss these comments at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bonnie Fox". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bonnie" and last name "Fox" clearly distinguishable.

Bonnie Fox  
Policy and Planning Director

c.c. All CA CAOs/GMs



**Memorandum to:** Board of Directors

**Approved for Circulation By:** Lisa Burnside, CAO

**Reviewed By:** T. Scott Peck, MCIP, RPP, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer / Director, Watershed Management Services

**Prepared By:** Jonathan Bastien, P.Eng. – Manager, Water Resources Engineering

**Meeting Date:** June 5, 2025

**Subject:** Watershed Conditions Memorandum

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### **Executive Summary:**

During the period of March 24<sup>th</sup> to May 26<sup>th</sup> 2025, there were no significant watercourse flooding events nor Lake Ontario shoreline flooding events. However, significant water safety concerns and localized watercourse flooding of low-lying areas that typically flood during higher water levels did occur. There were three rain events that warranted issuing messages and additional monitoring of watercourse conditions. There was also one potential Lake Ontario shoreline flooding event that warranted the issuing of messages and additional monitoring of conditions.

There are no observations, reports, or expectations that significant watercourse flooding, localized watercourse flooding of low-lying areas that typically flood during higher water levels, or significant water safety concerns are occurring at this time. Current flows are near baseflow conditions to elevated but below thresholds for significant water safety concerns.

The average monthly flows for May so far have ranged between below long-term averages to well above long-term averages. April average recorded flows ranged between well below long-term averages to near long-term averages. March average recorded flows ranged between below long-term averages to near long-term averages.

There are no observations, reports, or expectations that significant Lake Ontario shoreline flooding is occurring at this time. The Lake Ontario mean daily water level averaged across the entire lake is average for this time of year, as of yesterday.

Current Christie Lake levels are above preferred summer operating, but no significant flooding concerns are expected. Current Valens Lake levels are just above preferred summer operating levels (275.25 to 275.45 m).

The most recent drought assessment indicated that normal conditions are an appropriate overall characterization of the watershed.

There are currently no significant rainfall events forecasted for the watershed over the next 2 weeks. In the next 2 weeks, no significant Lake Ontario shoreline flooding is expected. HCA staff will continue to undertake monthly drought assessments, and coordinate with the Hamilton Low Water Response Team as required if drought conditions are identified.

### **Staff Comment / Discussion:**

#### **CURRENT WATERSHED CONDITIONS – May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

##### Current Flows in Major Area Watercourses

There are no observations, reports, or expectations that significant watercourse flooding, localized watercourse flooding of low-lying areas that typically flood during higher water levels, or significant water safety concerns are occurring at this time.

Current flows are near baseflow conditions to elevated but below thresholds for significant water safety concerns. 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.

The average monthly flows for May so far have ranged between below long-term averages to well above long-term averages. Monthly flow in Upper Spencer Creek at Safari Road has been 75% of long-term averages (considered slightly below average). Monthly flow in Middle Spencer Creek at Highway 5 has been 70% (considered slightly below average). Monthly flow in Lower Spencer Creek at Market Street has been 61% (considered below average). Monthly flow in Ancaster Creek at Wilson Street has been 115% (considered slightly above average). Monthly flow in Red Hill Creek at Barton Street has been 164% (considered well above average). The precipitation amounts recorded at the streamflow gauges do not explain the considerable variations in average monthly recorded flows. It is therefore expected that the considerable variations in average monthly recorded flows are likely due to significant differences in local rainfall and thunderstorms received in the ungauged areas upstream of each streamflow gauge.

April average recorded flows ranged between well below long-term averages to near long-term averages. Monthly flow in Upper Spencer Creek at Safari Road was 69% of long-term averages (considered below average). Monthly flow in Middle Spencer Creek at Highway 5 was 53% (considered well below average). Monthly flow in Ancaster Creek at Wilson Street was 102% (considered near average). Monthly flow in Red Hill Creek at Barton Street was 101% (considered near average). Lower Spencer Creek at Market Street water levels and flows were not considered accurate due to Creighton Road bridge

work immediately downstream of the gauge. The precipitation amounts recorded at the streamflow gauges do not explain the considerable variations in average monthly recorded flows. It is therefore expected that the considerable variations in average monthly recorded flows are likely due to significant differences in local rainfall and thunderstorms received in the ungauged areas upstream of each streamflow gauge.

March average recorded flows ranged between below long-term averages to near long-term averages. Monthly flow in Upper Spencer Creek at Safari Road was 88% of long-term averages (considered slightly below average). Monthly flow in Middle Spencer Creek at Highway 5 was 63% (considered below average). Monthly flow in Ancaster Creek at Wilson Street was 99% (considered near average). Monthly flow in Red Hill Creek at Barton Street was 104% (considered near average). Lower Spencer Creek at Market Street water levels and flows were not considered accurate due to Creighton Road bridge work immediately downstream of the gauge. The precipitation amounts recorded at the streamflow gauges do not explain the considerable variations in average monthly recorded flows. It is therefore expected that the considerable variations in average monthly recorded flows are likely due to significant differences in local rainfall and snowpack melt runoff received in the ungauged areas upstream of each streamflow gauge.

In January and February, ice conditions artificially affected readings at the streamflow gauges, thus flow measurements were not considered accurate. Also, Lower Spencer Creek at Market Street water levels were artificially elevated at times over this period due to planned in-water work related to the Creighton Road bridge work immediately downstream of the gauge.

#### Current Lake Ontario Water Levels

There are no observations, reports, or expectations that significant Lake Ontario shoreline flooding is occurring at this time. The Lake Ontario mean daily water level in the Hamilton area was 75.09 m IGLD85 as of yesterday. The Lake Ontario mean daily water level averaged across the entire lake (75.06 m IGLD85 as of yesterday) is average for this time of year.

#### Current Storages in HCA Reservoirs

Current Christie Lake levels (772.14 ft) are above preferred summer operating levels (771.00 to 771.50 ft), but no significant flooding concerns are expected.

Current Valens Lake levels (275.47 m) are just above preferred summer operating levels (275.25 to 275.45 m).

#### Current Soil Conditions

Surface and root-zone soils are considered wet to saturated across the watershed.

## RECENT STORM EVENTS

During the period of March 24<sup>th</sup> to May 26<sup>th</sup> 2025, there were no significant watercourse flooding events nor Lake Ontario shoreline flooding events.

However, significant water safety concerns and localized watercourse flooding of low-lying areas that typically flood during higher water levels did occur. There were three rain events that warranted issuing messages and additional monitoring of watercourse conditions.

There was also one potential Lake Ontario shoreline flooding event that warranted the issuing of messages and additional monitoring of conditions.

### Potential for Significant Watercourse Flooding During Rain Event

*April 2<sup>nd</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>*

Forecasts on March 31<sup>st</sup> predicted that on April 2<sup>nd</sup> there could be 25 to 75 mm of rain. There was potential for significant watercourse flooding. HCA staff continued to monitor watercourse and weather conditions closely, and reassessed the potential for flooding.

Significant water safety concerns and localized watercourse flooding of low-lying areas that typically flood during higher water levels did occur. However, there were no received observations, reports, or expectations of significant watercourse flooding.

HCA engineering staff issued the following messages related to this event, to communicate the potential watercourse flooding and water safety concerns to the City and public:

- March 31<sup>st</sup>: Flood Watch
- April 4<sup>th</sup>: Watershed Conditions Statement (Water Safety)
- April 8<sup>th</sup>: Watershed Conditions Statement (Water Safety)
- April 11<sup>th</sup>: Cancellation - Watershed Conditions Statement (Water Safety)

### Potential for Lake Ontario Shoreline Flooding

*April 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup>*

Forecasts on April 1<sup>st</sup> predicted that on April 2<sup>nd</sup> there could be shore-bound waves of up to 2.2 m in height may occur, with sustained winds of up to 36 km/hr and wind gusts of up to 66 km/hr. If these conditions occurred, there would be an increased risk of significant localized flooding and erosion along Hamilton's shoreline due to the resulting storm surge and wave action.

HCA staff continued to monitor weather conditions closely, and reassessed the potential for shoreline flooding.

However, no observations or reports were received of Lake Ontario shoreline flooding.

HCA engineering staff issued the following messages related to this event, to communicate the potential shoreline flooding concerns to the City and public:

- April 1<sup>st</sup>: Flood Watch – Lake Ontario Storm Surge
- April 4<sup>th</sup>: Cancellation - Flood Watch – Lake Ontario Storm Surge

#### Potential for Significant Watercourse Flooding During Rain Event

*May 1<sup>st</sup> to May 5<sup>th</sup>*

Forecasts on April 30<sup>th</sup> predicted that on May 1<sup>st</sup> there could be 10 to 50 mm of total rain including thunderstorms. There was potential for significant watercourse flooding. HCA staff continued to monitor watercourse and weather conditions closely, and reassessed the potential for flooding.

There were no received observations, reports, or expectations of significant watercourse flooding, localized watercourse flooding of low-lying areas that typically flood during higher water levels, or significant water safety concerns.

HCA engineering staff issued the following messages related to this event, to communicate the potential watercourse flooding and water safety concerns to the City and public:

- April 30<sup>th</sup>: Flood Watch

#### Potential for Significant Watercourse Flooding During Rain Event

*May 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>*

Forecasts on May 5<sup>th</sup> predicted that on May 5<sup>th</sup> there could be 10 to 48 mm of total rain including thunderstorms. There was potential for significant watercourse flooding. HCA staff continued to monitor watercourse and weather conditions closely, and reassessed the potential for flooding.

There were no received observations, reports, or expectations of significant watercourse flooding, localized watercourse flooding of low-lying areas that typically flood during higher water levels, or significant water safety concerns.

HCA engineering staff issued the following messages related to this event, to communicate the potential watercourse flooding and water safety concerns to the City and public:

- May 5<sup>th</sup>: Flood Watch
- May 7<sup>th</sup>: Cancellation – Flood Watch

## RECENT WATERSHED LOW WATER CONDITIONS

The most recent drought assessment (including data up to April 30) indicated that normal conditions are an appropriate overall characterization of the watershed.

## FORECASTED WATERSHED CONDITIONS

### Watercourse Flooding

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

### Lake Ontario Shoreline Flooding

In the next 2 weeks, no significant Lake Ontario shoreline flooding is expected.

### Watershed Low Water Conditions

HCA staff will continue to undertake monthly drought assessments, and coordinate with the Hamilton Low Water Response Team as required if drought conditions are identified.





**Memorandum to:** Board of Directors

**Approved for Circulation By:** Lisa Burnside, CAO

**Reviewed By:** Gord Costie, Director, Conservation Area Services

**Prepared By:** Brandon Good, Senior Manager, Conservation Area Services

**Meeting Date:** June 5, 2025

**Subject:** Conservation Area Services Update

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### **Executive Summary:**

With the summer season approaching, the Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA) is entering peak operations across its conservation areas. Camping reservations are tracking within 3.8% of last year, and the boat rental program at Christie and Valens Lake Conservation Areas has expanded to include stand-up paddle boards. Preparations for the operating season continue at Wild Waterworks and Lakeland Pool. Recent special events included the Sulphur Springs Trail Race at Dundas Valley and the Christie Lake Spring Fling Disc Golf Tournament. All HCA-managed beaches have passed initial water quality tests as part of Hamilton Public Health's seasonal monitoring program.

### **Staff Comment / Discussion:**

- **Conservation Areas – Camping and Visitation**

With June upon us, HCA Conservation Areas are now moving into peak operating season. Visitation levels are beginning to increase with camping reservations tracking within 3.8% of last year. The boat rental program has begun at both Christie and Valens Lake Conservation Areas with stand-up paddle boards joining the fleet of canoes and kayaks this year.

- **Wild Waterworks and Lakeland Pool and Splashpad**

The teams at Wild Waterworks and Lakeland Pool are working hard to prepare

the pools for the upcoming season. 2025 marks the 40<sup>th</sup> operating season of Wild Waterworks. HCA is proud to continue as a partner with City of Hamilton in the operation of the water park. We anticipate another successful year and will be open 6 days a week at Wild Waterworks including holiday Mondays and 7 days a week at Lakeland.

- **Dundas Valley Conservation Area – Sulphur Springs Trail Race**

The Sulphur Springs Trail Race, organized by the Burlington Runners Club, is Canada's oldest ultramarathon and is held annually in Dundas Valley Conservation Area. Celebrating over 30 years, the 2025 event took place on May 24 - 25 and featured a variety of race distances from 10 - 100 kilometers and even a 100-mile race.

- **Christie Lake Conservation Area – The Christie Lake Spring Fling**

The disc-golf course was host to the annual Christie Lake Spring Fling Disc Golf Tournament last month. The event is organized by the Christie Lake Disc Golf Club and the tournament welcomed 179 players. The Christie Lake course remains a highly rated course.

- **Hamilton Public Health Beach Monitoring Program**

The weekly swimming water sampling program of the public waterfronts at Valens Lake, Christie Lake and Confederation Beach Park conducted by Hamilton Public Health have resumed with all HCA operated swimming areas passing initial tests.