BOARD OF DIRECTORS

November 5, 2026

Hamilton Conservation Authority

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Hamilton Conservation Authority

A Healthy Watershed for Everyone

Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, November 5, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

Hamilton Conservation Authority conducts meetings in a hybrid format: in-person and via 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 Acknowledgment

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 – October 1, 2026 Page 5

6. **Foundation Briefing** Foundation Vice Chair – Margaret Reid

7. **Member Briefing**

8. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

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

10. Other Staff Reports/Memorandums

Reports to be approved

10.1. Tender Award – Repairs to the Spillway Berms at both the West and East Wetland Complexes of the Battlefield Creek Wetland Facility (BC-1) (Saltfleet Conservation Area) – Jonathan Bastien Page 13

Memorandums to be received

10.2. Watershed Conditions Report – Jonathan Bastien Page 17

10.3. Conservation Areas Experiences – Liam Fletcher Page 21

11. New Business

12. In-Camera Items

13. Next Meeting – Thursday, December 3, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

14. Adjournment

Hamilton Conservation Authority

A Healthy Watershed for Everyone

5.1

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 Management Services
Prepared By:	Mike Stone, MCIP, RPP, Senior Manager, Watershed Planning, Stewardship & Ecological Services
Meeting Date:	November 5, 2026
Subject:	Permit Applications Summary Report

HCA permit applications approved by staff under the *Conservation Authorities Act* and *Ontario Regulation 41/24* between the dates of September 18, 2026 to October 22, 2026 are summarized in the following Permit Applications Summary Report (PASR-9/26).

Recommendation:

THAT the Board of Directors receive this Permit Application Summary Report PASR-9/26 as information.

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HAMILTON REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

PERMIT APPLICATION SUMMARY REPORT (PASR 9/26)

HCA permit applications approved under the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 41/24 between the dates of September 18, 2026 - October 22, 2026

Permit Number	Date Permit Issued	Review Days	Applicant Name	Location	Application Description	Recommendation / Conditions
2026-81	21-Sep-2026	1		36 Showcase Dr / LOT 5 / CON 1	to create an additional dwelling unit	Approved subject to standard conditions.
2026-82	21-Sep-2026	4		444 Southcote Rd / LOT 47 / CON 3	alteration to a building for dormers	Approved subject to standard conditions.
2026-83	23-Sep-2026	6		22 Dorr Crt / LOT 53 / CON 3	construction of a basement Additional Dwelling Unit	Approved subject to standard conditions.
2026-84	28-Sep-2026	7		148 Montreal Circ / LOT 3 / CON BF	construction of an additional dwelling unit	Approved subject to standard conditions.
2026-85	28-Sep-2026	3		LOT 17 / CON 4	Dewitt Road Access and Ridge Road Stabilization	Approved subject to standard conditions.
2026-86	30-Sep-2026	13		1486 Westover Rd / LOT 31 / CON 7	replacement of approximately 210 m of natural gas pipeline	Approved subject to standard conditions.
2026-87	30-Sep-2026	2		140 Country Club Dr / LOT 31 / CON 5	construction of roof over deck connected to the existing dwelling	Approved subject to standard conditions.
2026-88	01-Oct-2026	2		99 Robinhood Dr / LOT 52 / CON 1	interior renovations and the construction of support posts for an existing cantilevered balcony	Approved subject to standard conditions.
2026-90	02-Oct-2026	1		1421 Highway 8 / LOT 2 / CON 2	replacement of a septic system	Approved subject to standard conditions.

2026-91	05-Oct-2026	1		8 Gabel Crt / LOT 44 / CON 3	construction of a dormer addition to an existing dwelling	Approved subject to standard conditions.
2026-92	07-Oct-2026	1		14 Central Park Ave / LOT 14 / CON 1	replacement of a front porch and waterproofing of existing foundation	Approved subject to standard conditions.
2026-93	15-Oct-2026	1		777 Garner Rd E / LOT 49, 50 / CON 3	installation of a pipe outfall for a storm tank and to construct a parking area, concrete pad, and walkway	Approved subject to standard conditions.
2026-94	21-Oct-2026	2	T	1067 Westover Rd / LOT 30 / CON 5	construction of a second storey additional dwelling unit to an existing dwelling and replacement of a septic system	Approved subject to standard conditions.
2026-95	22-Oct-2026	6		1128 Concession 5 W / LOT 36 / CON 4	construction of a deck	Approved subject to standard conditions.

Hamilton Region Conservation Authority

Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting

October 1, 2026

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on Thursday, Date, 2026 at 6:00 p.m., at the HCA main office, 838 Mineral Springs Road, in Ancaster, and livestreamed on YouTube.

PRESENT:	**Craig Cassar**	**Lisa DiCesare**
	Susan Fielding – in the Chair	**Wayne Terryberry**
	Alex Wilson	**Maureen Wilson**
	Graham Reid – Foundation Chair	
REGRETS:	**Brad Clark, Elise Copps, Matt Francis and Mike Spadafora**	
STAFF PRESENT:	**Lisa Burnside, Gord Costie, Scott Fleming, Liam Fletcher, Brandon Good, Rob Gray, Matt Hall, Amanda Martin, Scott Peck, Sarah Piett, Carissa Smith, 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.

BD12, 3682 **MOVED BY: Lisa DiCesare**
SECONDED BY: Maureen Wilson

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 – September 3, 2026

5.3. Approved – August 27, 2026 Budget & Administration Committee Meeting Minutes – for receipt only

5.4. Correspondence from Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency with respect to composition and operation of current Conservation Authority Boards of Directors following the municipal election, dated September 9, 2026

6. Foundation Briefing

Graham Reid, the Chair of the Foundation reported that $148,000 was received in donations during September, bringing the fiscal year-to-date fundraising total to $2,516,000. Autum begins the final quarter of the fiscal year, the busiest fundraising season; the Foundation is well positioned for a strong finish.

This fall, the Foundation is celebrating its 50th anniversary. To mark this milestone, a new campaign, *Rooted*, is being launched, which celebrates the Foundation's legacy while looking ahead to the future. Through the campaign, $500,000 is being raised to support the acquisition and protection of ecologically significant land. The campaign is built around a simple idea: one act of generosity can help protect a wetland, preserve a forest, provide habitat for wildlife, and create a lasting impact for future generations.

The campaign will kick off on Foundation Day, held at Dundas Valley Conservation Area October 3rd. The event will give visitors an opportunity to learn how local land conservation works and why protecting natural spaces matters. Through hands-on activities, guided nature walks, opportunities to meet HCA ecology and stewardship staff, and a preview of a new land preservation project at the headwaters of Fletcher Creek, visitors will be able to explore and connect with the natural world while seeing firsthand the impact of community support.

The annual direct mail appeal, which will be mailed to our donor base in the coming weeks, will further support the *Rooted* campaign and year-end fundraising efforts.

The video for the *Rooted*, campaign was shared with members.

BD12, 3683 **MOVED BY: Lisa DiCesare**
SECONDED BY: Wayne Terryberry

THAT the Foundation Briefing be received.

CARRIED

7. Member Briefing

There was none.

8. Business Arising from the Minutes

8.1. Update on Transition Committee

Lisa Burnside provided an update to the Board on the Transition Committee, indicating, that the Transition Committee's work is now underway; the first meeting was held in September. This work will help guide the governance and transition work for the new Regional Conservation Authority, while the important day-to-day watershed-based work of the four conservation authorities continues. Meetings will be held monthly developing the transition workplan with a focus on continuity and a smooth transition under the guidance and direction of the Project Executive Jacqueline Johnson.

BD12, 3684 **MOVED BY: Wayne Terryberry**
SECONDED BY: Lisa DiCesare

THAT the Update on the Transition Committee be received.

CARRIED

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

9.1. Budget & Administration Committee (Recommendations)

9.1.1. BA 2630 HCA Reserves Allocation

Susan Fielding provided an overview of the staff report, indicating that $287,000 in funds that had been set aside for a specific HR liability were no longer required for that purpose and can be released for re-allocation. Following a review of HCA reserves and current projects, two areas were recommended to received funds:

- Human Resources Reserve, to top up to the Human Resources Reserve as it is below its minimum target balance and,
- The remaining funds to the Saltfleet Wetland Restoration Project.

BD12, 3685 **MOVED BY: Susan Fielding**
SECONDED BY: Craig Cassar

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

THAT $57,846.56 be allocated to the Human Resources Reserve to restore the reserve to its established minimum target balance of $250,000; and further

THAT the remaining $229,431.22 be allocated to the Saltfleet Conservation Area Wetland Restoration Project Reserve to support future project work.

CARRIED

10. Other Staff Reports/Memoranda

10.1. Final HCA 2027 Budget Approval

Lisa Burnside brought forward the staff report and indicated that the draft 2027 operating and capital budgets were circulated for comment to the City of Hamilton and Township of Puslinch. No comments received and the budgets are returning for final approval.

BD12, 3686 **MOVED BY: Maureen Wilson**
SECONDED BY: Lisa DiCesare

THAT the Board of Directors approve the 2027 operating and capital budgets in accordance with the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 402/22

CARRIED

10.2. Fifty Point West Road Rehabilitation – Phase 3 Tender Results

Matt Hall brought forward the staff report indicating that this project is the final phase of the West Road reconstruction at Fifty Point Conservation Area. Following a tender process, Palm Enterprises was the lowest bid and staff recommended they be awarded the contract. Preparation work will begin this Fall and paving next Spring following the boat lift-in. An information page will be posted on HCA's website in

addition to providing the local Councillor's office with details on the project to assist with responding to any community enquiries.

BD12, 3687 **MOVED BY: Craig Cassar**
SECONDED BY: Alex Wilson

THAT the Board of Directors award the construction tender for the third phase of Fifty Point Conservation Area's West Road Rehabilitation project, to Palm Enterprises Inc. for a total cost of $234,845.19 which includes a contingency sum and HST.

CARRIED

10.3. Proposal to Metrolinx for Restoration at Eramosa Karst Conservation Area

Lesley McDonell provided an overview of the staff report regarding a proposal for a Metrolinx-funded habitat restoration at Eramosa Karst Conservation Area to compensate for habitat impacts associated with its Stoney Creek training facility. The project would restore approximately 4 hectares of meadow habitat, establish 1.2 hectares of tree and shrub planting, and include monitoring over 10 years, with Metrolinx providing approximately $550,000 in funding. Because the project exceeds the thresholds established under the Minister's Direction, OPCA authorization is required before the work can proceed.

BD12, 3688 **MOVED BY: Lisa DiCesare**
SECONDED BY: Wayne Terryberry

THAT the Board of Directors approve the proposal for restoration works at the Eramosa Karst Conservation Area; and further

THAT staff be directed to seek authorization from the Chief Executive Officer of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency to proceed with the restoration works, in accordance with the Minister's Direction issued under section 1.14 of the *Conservation Authorities Act;* and further

THAT, upon receipt of the required authorization, staff be authorized to accept the purchase order from Metrolinx and proceed with the restoration and monitoring works in accordance with the approved proposal; and further

That staff be authorized to execute any necessary documents and take all actions required to implement the project.

CARRIED

10.4. Watershed Conditions Memorandum

Scott Peck provided an overview of the memorandum, noting that during the period of August 24th 2026 to September 23rd 2026, there were no significant watercourse flooding events, and no significant Lake Ontario shoreline flooding events. However, one storm (September 2nd) warranted issuing messages and additional monitoring of watercourse conditions.

Currently, there are no 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. Current flows are near baseflow conditions at all watercourse gauge locations and Lake Ontario levels are typical for this time of year.

BD12, 3689 **MOVED BY: Maureen Wilson**
SECONDED BY: Craig Cassar

THAT the memorandum entitled Watershed Conditions be received.

CARRIED

10.5. Conservation Areas Services Update

Gord Costie provided a summary of the memorandum noting that despite smoke-related closure days and rainy weather, Wild Waterworks welcomed 81,335 guests and Lakeland Pool recorded more than 6,200 visits.

HCA Conservation Areas are transitioning into the fall shoulder season and all areas will be open for Thanksgiving weekend. Fall highlights include:

- A continuation of camping and cabin rentals at Valens Lake Conservation Area;
- Boat lift-out at Fifty Point Conservation Area, with over 250 boats being lifted out, with the help of staff from across the watershed.
- A variety of events at Christie Lake including ChainLink Conservation Series, a disc golf competition; Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board's cross-country runs; McMaster University Marauder Lakefront Invitational and, Sticks and Stones Trail Race

- Westfield Heritage Village will once again host A Witches' Hallowe'en Party on October 24th and 25th, for families of all ages, who will enjoy a packed lineup of festive activities, including an Edwardian Carnival.

BD12, 3690 **MOVED BY: Alex Wilson**
SECONDED BY: Wayne Terryberry

THAT the memorandum entitled Conservation Areas Services Update be received.

CARRIED

11. New Business

There was none.

12. In-Camera Items

There was none.

13. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, November 5, 2026 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 was adjourned.

_____
Scott Fleming
Secretary-Treasurer

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Hamilton Conservation Authority

A Healthy Watershed for Everyone

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 Management Services
Prepared By:	Jonathan Bastien, P. Eng., Manager, Water Resources Engineering Rebecca Bar, P. Eng., Project Engineer
Meeting Date:	November 5, 2026
Subject:	Tender Award – Repairs to the Spillway Berms at both the West and East Wetland Complexes of the Battlefield Creek Wetland Facility (BC-1) (Saltfleet Conservation Area)

Recommendation:

THAT the Board of Directors approve the tender for Repairs to the Spillway Berms at both the West and East Wetland Complexes of the Battlefield Creek Wetland Facility (BC-1) (Saltfleet Conservation Area), submitted by C.R.L. Campbell Construction & Drainage Ltd., at a cost not to exceed $140,055.55 (not including HST); and further

THAT the Board approves the use of Saltfleet CA Wetland restoration Project Reserve funds to fund project costs.

Executive Summary:

Repairs to the Spillway Berms at both the West and East Wetland Complexes of the Battlefield Creek Wetland Facility (BC-1) (Saltfleet Conservation Area) are required to address a seepage issue in the wetland outlet structures and this work will be undertaken by an external contractor. This project will ensure the impermeability of the spillway berms at the outlet structures for the East and West wetland complexes.

A Request for Tenders was developed and a call for bids issued. Four bids were submitted. It is recommended that this project be awarded to C.R.L. Campbell

Construction & Drainage Ltd. for the amount not exceeding $140,055.55 (not including HST).

Staff Comment / Discussion:

HCA owns and operates the Battlefield Creek (BC-1) Wetland Facility located in the Saltfleet Conservation Area at 444 First Road East in Stoney Creek (See Figure 1). The BC-1 wetland was the first wetland constructed (in 2022) as part of the Saltfleet Conservation Area Wetland Restoration Project and provides flood, erosion, ecological, and recreational benefits to the surrounding community and watershed. The BC-1 Wetland Facility consists of two wetland complexes: West and East. The West and East wetland complexes each have a perimeter containment berm, and an outlet structure. The outlet structures each consist of a riser pipe and outlet pipe, with a spillway. The spillways are 5 and 20 m long, respectively for the West and East Wetland complexes.

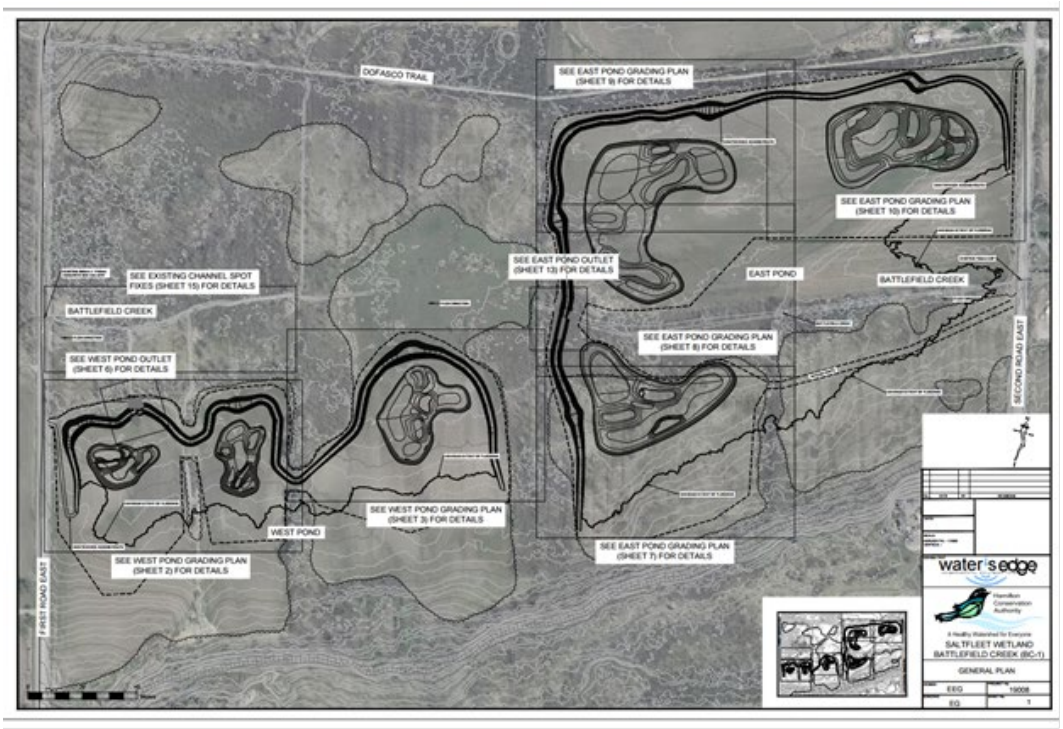

Figure 1 – Saltfleet Conservation Area Battlefield Creek (BC-1) General Plan

In 2025, a visual inspection by HCA staff and the design engineering consultant identified that the spillway berm for the West wetland complex had experienced temporary seepage during elevated water levels that resulted from a larger storm event.

Given the similar design of both spillway berms, repairs are proposed at both structures to maintain their long-term integrity and performance. The repair work will involve exposing the existing spillway cores, installing enhanced seepage-control measures,

including sheet piling and impervious clay, and reinstating the spillway protection materials and trail surfaces following construction.

A Request for Tenders was developed and a call for bids issued. Four bids were submitted as follows:

Consultant	Budget (not including HST)
C.R.L. Campbell Construction & Drainage Ltd.	$140,055.55
2220742 Ontario Ltd o/a Bronte Construction	$402,050.00
Rankin Construction Inc.	$526,790.00
AVERTEX Utility Solutions Inc.	$282,187.00

The above budgets include contingency amounts equal to 10% of total proposed project costs.

Based on review by HCA engineering staff of the tenders submitted, it is recommended that this project be awarded to C.R.L. Campbell Construction & Drainage Ltd. for the amount not exceeding $140,055.55 (not including HST), for the following reasons:

- The C.R.L. Campbell Construction & Drainage Ltd submission provided is the lowest quote for the project.
- Staff confirm that the lowest bid was reviewed and is complete with all tender requirements are addressed
- The submitted tender provides a clear understanding of the required work based on the tender documents and drawings.
- C.R.L. Campbell Construction & Drainage Ltd is based in Wainfleet, Ontario and has the required experience to undertake this project
- Staff are satisfied and have confidence in the contractor's ability to successfully deliver the project. Specifically, C.R.L. Campbell Construction & Drainage Ltd. recently successfully completed dam repairs for HCA (Slope Slump Repairs at the Mineral Springs Detention Facility in 2026).

Strategic Plan Linkage:

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

- **Strategic Priority Area – Natural Heritage Conservation**
  - Initiatives – Advance progress on the Saltfleet Conservation Area Wetland Restoration Program and promote its objective and benefits.

Agency Comments:

Not applicable

Legal / Financial Implications:

The repairs to the outlet structures of the West and East wetland cells will be funded through the Saltfleet Conservation Area Wetland Restoration Project Restoration Reserve account. There is sufficient funds available in the reserve to facilitate the noted work.

Hamilton Conservation Authority

A Healthy Watershed for Everyone

10.2

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: November 5, 2026

Subject: Watershed Conditions Memorandum

Executive Summary:

During the period of September 23rd 2026 to October 26th 2026, there were no significant flooding or water safety concerns, related to area watercourses or the Lake Ontario shoreline.

Currently, there are no 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.

Current flows are at baseflow conditions to slightly elevated above baseflows and well below water safety thresholds. Flows are currently and recently not available at the Upper Spencer Creek at Safari Road gauge due to artificially elevated levels because of local beaver activity. Also, flows are currently and recently not available at the Red Hill Creek at Barton Street gauge due to missing equipment that Water Survey of Canada is in the process of replacing.

The average monthly flows for October so far have ranged between significantly below long-term averages to below long-term averages. The average monthly flows for September ranged between well below long-term averages to slightly below long-term averages. The average monthly flows for August ranged between slightly above long-term averages to significantly above long-term averages. The average monthly flows for July ranged between slightly below long-term averages to significantly above long-term averages.

Currently, there are no observations, reports, or expectations of significant Lake Ontario shoreline flooding. The Lake Ontario mean daily water level averaged across the entire lake was 18 cm above average for this time of year, as of yesterday.

Christie Lake levels are currently being drawdown towards winter levels, which also supports the ongoing salmon spawning in Lower Spencer Creek. Valens Lake levels are currently slightly below within preferred summer operating levels.

A recent drought assessment is not yet available. An assessment for data up to October 31 will be provided with the next Watershed Conditions memorandum.

There are currently no significant rainfall events (+20 mm in a day) forecasted for the watershed over the next 2 weeks. There are currently no significant Lake Ontario shoreline flooding events forecasted over the next 2 weeks. HCA staff will continue to undertake monthly drought assessments, and coordinate with the Hamilton Low Water Response Team if drought conditions warrant actions.

Staff Comment / Discussion:

CURRENT WATERSHED CONDITIONS – October 26th, 2026

Current Flows in Major Area Watercourses

Currently, there are no 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.

Current flows are at baseflow conditions to slightly elevated above baseflows and well below water safety thresholds, at the available streamflow gauge locations. The three available streamflow gauges are Middle Spencer Creek at Highway 5, Lower Spencer Creek at Market Street, and Ancaster Creek at Wilson Street. Flows are currently not available at the Upper Spencer Creek at Safari Road gauge due to artificially elevated levels because of local beaver activity. Also, flows are currently not available at the Red Hill Creek at Barton Street gauge due to missing equipment that Water Survey of Canada is in the process of replacing.

The average monthly flows for October so far have ranged between significantly below long-term averages to below long-term averages. Monthly flow in Upper Spencer Creek at Safari Road are not available due to artificially elevated levels because of local beaver activity. Monthly flow in Middle Spencer Creek at Highway 5 has been 28% (considered significantly below average). Monthly flow in Lower Spencer Creek at Market Street has been 37% (considered significantly below average). Monthly flow in Ancaster Creek at Wilson Street has been 70% (considered below average). Monthly flow in Red Hill Creek at Barton Street are not available due to missing equipment that Water Survey of Canada is in the process of replacing.

The average monthly flows for September ranged between well below long-term averages to slightly below long-term averages. Monthly flow in Upper Spencer Creek at Safari Road

are not available due to artificially elevated levels because of local beaver activity. Monthly flow in Middle Spencer Creek at Highway 5 has been 74% (considered slightly below average). Monthly flow in Lower Spencer Creek at Market Street has been 51% (considered well below average). Monthly flow in Ancaster Creek at Wilson Street has been 68% (considered below average). Monthly flow in Red Hill Creek at Barton Street are not available due to missing equipment that Water Survey of Canada is in the process of replacing.

The average monthly flows for August ranged between slightly above long-term averages to significantly above long-term averages. Monthly flow in Upper Spencer Creek at Safari Road was 417% of long-term averages (considered significantly above average). Monthly flow in Middle Spencer Creek at Highway 5 was 164% (considered well above average). Monthly flow in Lower Spencer Creek at Market Street was 146% (considered above average). Monthly flow in Ancaster Creek at Wilson Street was 120% (considered slightly above average). Monthly flow in Red Hill Creek at Barton Street was 223% (considered significantly above average).

The average monthly flows for July ranged between slightly below long-term averages to significantly above long-term averages. Monthly flow in Upper Spencer Creek at Safari Road was 217% of long-term averages (considered significantly above average). Monthly flow in Middle Spencer Creek at Highway 5 was 143% (considered above average). Monthly flow in Lower Spencer Creek at Market Street was 151% (considered well above average). Monthly flow in Ancaster Creek at Wilson Street was 72% (considered slightly below average). Monthly flow in Red Hill Creek at Barton Street was 154% (considered well above average).

Current Lake Ontario Water Levels

Currently, there are no observations, reports, or expectations of significant Lake Ontario shoreline flooding. The Lake Ontario mean daily water level in the Hamilton area was 74.80 m to 74.81 IGLD85 as of yesterday. The Lake Ontario mean daily water level averaged across the entire lake (74.77 m IGLD85 as of yesterday) was 18 cm above average for this time of year.

Current Storages in HCA Reservoirs

Christie Lake levels (768.71 ft) are currently being drawdown towards winter levels (765.30 to 765.80 ft), which also supports the ongoing salmon spawning in Lower Spencer Creek.

Valens Lake levels (275.08 m) are currently slightly below within preferred summer operating levels (275.25 to 275.45 m).

Current Soil Conditions

Surface and root-zone soils are expected to be moist to wet, and fully thawed, across the watershed.

RECENT STORM EVENTS

During the period of September 23rd 2026 to October 26th 2026, there were no significant flooding or water safety concerns, related to area watercourses or the Lake Ontario shoreline.

RECENT WATERSHED LOW WATER CONDITIONS

A recent drought assessment is not yet available. An assessment for data up to October 31 will be provided with the next Watershed Conditions memorandum.

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

There are currently no significant Lake Ontario shoreline flooding events forecasted over the next 2 weeks. HCA staff continue to monitor conditions and forecasts routinely.

Watershed Low Water Conditions

HCA staff will continue to undertake monthly drought assessments, and coordinate with the Hamilton Low Water Response Team if drought conditions warrant actions.

Hamilton Conservation Authority

A Healthy Watershed for Everyone

10.3

Memorandum to: Board of Directors

Approved for Circulation By: Lisa Burnside, CAO

Reviewed By: Gord Costie, Director, Conservation Area Services

Prepared By: Liam Fletcher, Senior Manager, Conservation Area Services

Meeting Date: November 5, 2026

Subject: Conservation Area Services Update

Executive Summary:

This November, the Road to Hope Marathon will be held at Confederation Beach Park from October 31 to November 1. On the west side of the watershed, the advanced reservation system at Spencer Gorge wraps up on November 8, welcoming over 1,700 visitors this year. The annual Haudenosaunee Habitat Wildlife Authority Deer Harvest in the Dundas Valley will take place from November 2 to December 3, utilizing an archery-only format for Indigenous harvesters.

Staff Comment / Discussion:

- **Confederation Beach Park – Road 2 Hope**
  The Road to Hope Marathon will take place on October 31 and November 1 at Confederation Beach Park. The Road to Hope event offers a variety of races for everyone including a 1km, 5km, 10km, half and full marathon. Over 4600 registered participants will be fundraising thousands of dollars for local charities. Good luck to all the runners

  Spencer Gorge – Reservation System
  The Spencer Gorge reservation system will finish on November 8 for Dundas Peak, Tew, Webster falls. Spencer Gorge welcomed an estimated 1700 visitors this fall to take in the iconic vistas. Advanced reservations continue to be effective approach in managing visitation, reducing traffic congestion and minimizing pedestrian hazards.

- **Haudenosaunee Habitat Wildlife Committee – Deer Harvest**
  The annual Haudenosaunee Habitat Wildlife Authority Deer Harvest began on Monday, November 2 and will run until Thursday, December 3, in the west end of the Dundas Valley Conservation Area. This archery-only deer hunt is designated for Indigenous harvesters only and is conducted with the support of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Hamilton Police Service, and Municipal Bylaw Enforcement. The deer harvest is a long-standing tradition providing sustenance for the Haudenosaunee community.