



LONG POINT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY STAFF REPORT

Date: December 1, 2021 File: 1.2.1.2

To: Chair and Members
LPRCA Board of Directors

From: General Manager/Secretary Treasurer, LPRCA

Re: **LPRCA Transition Plan**

Recommendation:

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors receives the LPRCA Transition Plan report as information.

Links to Strategic Direction:

Strategic Direction #1 – Protect People & Property from Flooding & Natural Hazards
Strategic Direction #2 – Deliver Exceptional Services & Experiences
Strategic Direction #3 – Support & Empower Our People
Strategic Direction #4 – Organizational Excellence

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is present the LPRCA Transition Plan to the Board. The Transition Plan communicates the Authority's strategy to achieve the requirements of Regulation 687/21. Aligned with the regulation the plan identifies required deliverables and indicates established deadlines.

Background:

On October 4, 2021, the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) released the Phase 1 regulations to implement amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act made in 2019/2020:

Ontario Regulation 686/21: Mandatory Programs and Services

<http://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/r21686>

This regulation prescribes the mandatory programs and services conservation authorities are required to provide: risk of natural hazards, conservation and management of lands, elements of source water protection, core watershed-based resource management strategies, and provincial water quality and quantity monitoring.

Ontario Regulation 687/21: Transition Plans and Agreements for Programs and Services under Section 21.1.2 of the Act

<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/r21687>

This regulation requires each authority to develop and implement a "Transition Plan" that outlines the steps to be taken to develop an inventory of programs and services and to enter into cost apportionment agreements with participating municipalities for non-mandated programs and services that require municipal levy funding in whole or in part.

Phase 1 - Transition Plan

Under O. Reg. 687/21, each Conservation Authority is to develop and implement a Transition Plan that outlines the process and timelines for the development of cost apportionment agreements with their member municipalities for non-mandated programs and services that rely, in whole or in part, on municipal levy. **The Transition Plan (attached) is to be circulated to member municipalities and submitted to MECP by December 31, 2021.**

Inventory of Programs and Services

An inventory of programs and services is to be prepared and circulated to member municipalities by February 28, 2022.

LPRCA's programs and services are to be classified as either Category 1 Mandatory, Category 2 Non-Mandatory or Category 3 Other, as identified in O.Reg. 686/21.

Category 1 Mandatory – Programs and services that are mandated by provincial legislation or policy. Conservation authorities are required to deliver these programs and services.

Category 2 Non-mandatory – Programs and services that are carried out by the CA on behalf of a municipality under agreement or service contract, at the municipality's request.

Category 3 Other – Non-mandated programs and services that the CA has determined are advisable to implement in the watershed. These are the programs and services for which cost apportionment agreements must be in place by January 1, 2024.

The inventory is to include an estimate of the annual cost of the service, sources of funding and the percentage attributed to each funding source.

In addition, a record of the municipal distribution of the inventory is to be forwarded to the MECP by February 28, 2022. The inventory may be amended/updated after February 28, 2022, but any changes are to be documented and forwarded to MECP.

Phase II Municipal Agreements

All municipal agreements for non-mandated services are to be in place by January 1, 2024, and reflected in LPRCA's 2024 budget.

Beginning with the circulation of the programs and services inventory in February 2022, LPRCA will work with its municipal partners to develop agreements for non-mandated watershed-wide programs and services.

LPRCA will also consult with neighbouring Conservation Authorities to ensure we are coordinating programs and services to meet the needs of our shared municipal partners.

Financial Implications

There is no financial implications associatd with this report for the 2021 or 2022 budget.

Prepared by:

Approved and submitted by:

Lorrie Minshall, P.Eng.
Project Manager

Judy Maxwell, CPA, CGA
General Manager/Secretary Treasurer



Long Point Region Conservation Authority

**Transition Plans and Agreements
for Programs and Services
O. Reg. 687/21**

Effective Date:

Transition Plan: O. Reg. 678/21	
Prepared by: Lorrie Minshall	Title: Project Manager
Approved by: Judy Maxwell	Title: General Manager
Prepared for: LPRCA Board of Directors, Member Municipalities and MECP	

Long Point Region Conservation Authority Transition Plan

Introduction

O. Reg. 687/21 “Transition Plans and Agreements for Programs and Services” made under the Section 21.1.2 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* came into effect on October 1, 2021. O. Reg. 687/21 requires each Conservation Authority to develop and implement a Transition Plan. The Transition Plan is to outline the process and timelines for the development of cost apportionment agreements with their member municipalities for non-mandated programs and services that rely, in whole or in part, on municipal levy.

The purpose of the transition period is to prepare conservation authorities and municipalities for the change to the budgeting process based on the delivery of mandatory and non-mandatory programs and services by January 1, 2024.

Phase 1 Transition Plan

This Transition Plan is required to be completed by December 31, 2021 and distributed to member municipalities and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP).

Prior to this distribution, the Long Point Region Conservation Authority (LPRCA) Board of Directors will receive the Transition Plan. The Transition Plan will be posted on the LPRCA website before December 31, 2021.

Inventory of Programs and Services

An inventory of program and services is to be prepared and circulated to member municipalities by February 28, 2022.

LPRCA’s programs and services will be classified as either Category 1 Mandatory, Category 2 Non-Mandatory or Category 3 Other, as identified in Section 21 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and O. Reg. 686/21.

The inventory will include an estimate of the annual cost of the service, sources of funding and the percentage attributed to each funding source. In addition, a record of the municipal distribution of the inventory is to be forwarded to MECP. Any changes to the inventory after February 28, 2022 will be documented and forwarded to MECP.

Phase 2 Municipal Agreements

All municipal agreements for non-mandated services are to be in place by January 1, 2024. LPRCA will negotiate with its municipal partners to develop agreements for non-mandated but

important watershed-wide programs and services. The negotiations will be undertaken upon the circulation of the inventory in February 2022.

In addition, LPRCA will consult with neighbouring Conservation Authorities to ensure we are coordinating programs and services to meet the needs of our shared municipal partners.

Timeline Summary Chart

Action/Deliverable	Execute	Deadline
2021		
Develop Transition Plan	Oct. - Nov. 2021	Dec. 31, 2021
Board Report on Transition Plan		Dec. 2021
Transition Plan sent to member municipalities and MECP, posted to LPRCA web	Dec. 2021	Dec. 31, 2021
2022		
Develop Programs and Services Inventory	Oct. 2021 – Jan. 2022	Feb. 28, 2022
Board Review of Programs and Services Inventory for circulation to municipalities		Feb. 23, 2022
Inventory of Programs and Services sent to municipalities	Feb. 28, 2022	Feb. 28, 2022
Inventory of Programs and Services sent to MECP with municipal circulation record	Feb. 28, 2022	Feb. 28, 2022
2023		
Negotiate cost apportioning agreements with municipalities	Feb. 2, 2022 – Sep. 30, 2023	Sept. 30, 2023
Consult with neighbouring CAs	Dec. 2, 2021 – Sep. 30, 2023	Sept. 30, 2023
Request for extension of transition date (if required)		Sept. 30, 2023
Execute municipal agreements	August/September 2023	Dec. 31, 2023
2024		
Board Approval of 2024 Budget implementing agreements		Jan. 2024
Final Report to MECP		Jan. 30, 2024
The Authority Shall submit progress reports to the Ministry on the following dates:		
Quarterly Progress Report		July 1, 2022
Quarterly Progress Report		October 1, 2022
Quarterly Progress Report		January 1, 2023
Quarterly Progress Report		April 1, 2023
Quarterly Progress Report		July 1, 2023
Quarterly Progress Report		October 1, 2023