



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Wednesday, January 7, 2026 @ 6:30pm
Tillsonburg Administration Office

AGENDA

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1. Welcome and Call to Order	
2. Additional Agenda Items	
3. Approval of the Agenda	
4. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest	
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b) Election of Chair	
1. Call for nominations	
Three calls, no seconder required	
2. Motion to Close Nominations for Chair	
3. Distribution of anonymous poll by Scrutineer - if required	
4. Announce Election Results	
5. Motion to Destroy Ballots – if required	
c) Election of Vice-Chair	
1. Call for nominations	
Three calls, no seconder required	
2. Motion to Close Nominations for Vice-Chair	
3. Distribution of anonymous poll by Scrutineer - if required	
4. Announce Election Results	
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13. Closed Session

a) The security of the property of the Authority
b) Closed Session Minutes of December 3, 2025
c) Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege

Adjournment

Next meeting: February 4, 2026, 6:30pm, Board of Directors



LONG POINT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY STAFF REPORT

Date: December 23, 2025

File: 1.1.1

To: Chair and Members,
LPRCA Board of Directors

From: General Manager, LPRCA

Re: 2026 LPRCA Committee Appointments

Recommendation:

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors approves the following appointments for 2026:

_____ and the LPRCA Chair and Vice-Chair to the Lands
(member)
Committee;

And

_____ and the LPRCA Chair to the Lee Brown Marsh
(member)
Management Committee;

And

_____, _____, _____, (member)

and the LPRCA Chair to the Backus Museum Committee;

And

_____, _____, _____, (member)

the LPRCA Chair and LPRCA Vice-chair to the Audit and Finance Committee.

Purpose:

The LPRCA Administrative By-Law Section B-12 requires that an election be held at the first meeting of the Board of Directors held in the calendar year in accordance with the Authority's Procedures for Election of Officers – Appendix 3. Section B13 of the Administrative By-Law requires appointments to Advisory Boards or other committees also be elected at the first Board of Directors meeting held in the calendar year.

Links to Strategic Plan:

Strategic Direction #4: Organizational Excellence

Background:

The Land Committee is responsible for consideration and evaluation of land acquisition and disposition matters of the Authority, and shall negotiate the purchase of said properties as directed by the Board of Directors. Any meetings are at the call of the Chair or General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer.

The Lee Brown Marsh Committee is responsible for making recommendations to the LPRCA Board of Directors with respect to the approved master plan for the Marsh. This Committee typically meets, at a minimum, twice annually and is represented by the LPRCA Chair and one other appointee.

The Audit and Finance Committee is responsible for financial oversight and risk management of LPRCA. This includes reviewing the results of the annual Audits and dealing with changes in accounting practices and policies. This Committee includes the LPRCA Chair and Vice-chair, as well as, three Board appointees and meets, at a minimum, twice annually.

The Backus Museum Committee is responsible for making recommendations to the LPRCA Board of Directors with respect to the operation of the Backhouse Historic Site and Museum. The Committee consists of three Board members plus the LPRCA Chair, and also includes an additional six public appointees based on recommendations from the Committee and ratification by the LPRCA Board of Directors. The committee meets four times per year.

Financial Implications:

The approved 2025 Board Members Per Diem rate is \$115 per meeting plus mileage of \$0.64 per kilometre. The Chair annual honourarium is \$2,866 and the Vice-Chair annual honourarium is \$1,146. The member per diems and mileage rate for 2026 will be presented for approval in a separate report. The draft 2026 budget for Director fees and travel expense is \$34,195.

Prepared and submitted by:

Judy Maxwell

Judy Maxwell, CPA, CGA
General Manager



LONG POINT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of December 3, 2025

Members in attendance:

Dave Beres, Chair	Town of Tillsonburg
Doug Brunton, Vice-Chair	Norfolk County
Shelley Ann Bentley	Haldimand County
Robert Chambers	County of Brant
Michael Columbus	Norfolk County
Ed Ketchabaw	Municipality of Bayham/Township of Malahide
Tom Masschaele	Norfolk County
Debera McKeen	Haldimand County
Jim Palmer	Township of Norwich
Chris Van Paassen	Norfolk County
Peter Ypma	Township of South-West Oxford

Regrets:

None

Staff in attendance:

Judy Maxwell, General Manager
Aaron LeDuc, Manager of Corporate Services
Leigh-Anne Mauthe, Manager of Watershed Services
Saifur Rahman, Manager of Engineering and Infrastructure
Jessica King, Social Media and Marketing Associate
Nicole Sullivan, HR Coordinator/Executive Assistant

1. Welcome and Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30p.m., Wednesday, December 3, 2025.

2. Additional Agenda Items

The Chair, Dave Beres, noted an unavoidable prior meeting and asked to have the Closed session items brought forward.

A-127/25

Moved by D. McKeen
Seconded by M. Columbus

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors move Item 10, Closed session, to Item 4 on the December 3, 2025 agenda.

Carried

FULL AUTHORITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Shelley Ann Bentley, Dave Beres, Doug Brunton, Robert Chambers, Michael Columbus, Ed Ketchabaw, Tom Masschaele, Debera McKeen, Jim Palmer, Chris Van Paassen, Peter Ypma

3. Approval of the Agenda

A-128/25

Moved by J. Palmer
Seconded by S. Bentley

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors approves the agenda as amended.

Carried

*P. Ypma arrived at the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

The Closed session began at 6:33 p.m.

4. Closed Session

A-129/25

Moved by S. Bentley
Seconded by J. Palmer

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors does now enter into a closed session to discuss:

- Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege

Carried

The Board reconvened in open session at 6:49 p.m.

The Chair vacated his seat for the remainder of the meeting. The Vice-Chair, Doug Brunton, chaired the Board of Director's meeting.

A-130/25

Moved by M. Columbus
Seconded by P. Ypma

THAT the Vice Chair, Doug Brunton, is appointed Acting Chair for the remainder of the Board of Director's Meeting held December 3, 2025.

Carried

*D. Beres left the meeting at 6:51p.m.

5. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

T. Masschaele, M. Columbus, D. Brunton, and C. Van Paassen declared a conflict with a closed agenda item.

T. Masschaele declared a conflict of interest with item 9i (amended to 10i) due to a family member being an employee of the company LPRCA used for the architectural and structural building assessment of Backus Historic site.

FULL AUTHORITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Shelley Ann Bentley, Dave Beres, Doug Brunton, Robert Chambers, Michael Columbus, Ed Ketchabaw, Tom Masschaele, Debera McKeen, Jim Palmer, Chris Van Paassen, Peter Ypma

6. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

a) Board of Directors Meeting November 5, 2025

A-131/25

Moved by J. Palmer
Seconded by E. Ketchabaw

THAT the minutes of the LPRCA Board of Directors meeting held November 5, 2025 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

b) Board of Directors Budget Meeting November 13, 2025

A-132/25

Moved by C. Van Paassen
Seconded by M. Columbus

THAT the minutes of the LPRCA Board of Directors Budget meeting held November 13, 2025 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

7. Business Arising

There was no business arising from the previous minutes.

8. Correspondence

Judy Maxwell gave an overview of the correspondence received in regards to the ERO up till the end of November.

There were no questions or comments in regards to the correspondence.

A-133/25

Moved by D. McKeen
Seconded by S. Bentley

THAT the correspondences outlined in the Board of Directors agenda of December 3, 2025 be received as information.

Carried

9. Development Applications

a) Section 28 Regulations Approved Permits (L. Mauthe)

Leigh-Anne Mauthe presented the approved permits report.

FULL AUTHORITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Shelley Ann Bentley, Dave Beres, Doug Brunton, Robert Chambers, Michael Columbus, Ed Ketchabaw, Tom Masschaele, Debera McKeen, Jim Palmer, Chris Van Paassen, Peter Ypma

A - 134/25

Moved by T. Masschaele
Seconded by P. Ypma

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors receives the staff approved Section 28 Regulation Approved Permits report dated December 3, 2025 as information.

Carried

10. New Business

a) Teeterville Dam Environmental Assessment – Montrose Presentation

Saifur Rahman introduced Scott Robertson, the representative from Montrose Environmental.

Scott Robertson highlighted to the Board the five alternative solutions for the Teeterville Dam; the assessments of all alternatives including the advantages and disadvantages; and discussed the preferred alternative (repair the dam) based on the metrics.

Mike Columbus thanked Scott Robertson for his presentation and work on the Environmental Assessment (EA) as the dam is in Councillor Columbus' ward.

Mike Columbus asked how soon could the County see the dam repaired. Scott Robertson informed the Board that the repair timeline is beyond the scope of the EA. Judy Maxwell informed the Board that the design for the dam is in the budget for 2027 and the repair for 2028 and this would be coordinated with Norfolk County.

Debera McKeen asked whose responsibility is it to replace the emergency fire system water supply if the Teeterville Dam is removed. Scott Robertson informed the Board it would be the County's responsibility to replace the emergency water supply, but the negative impact to Norfolk County had to be reviewed and mitigated in the EA report.

Chris Van Paassen has heard from many members of the community and is glad to hear the preferred alternative, based on the research, is to repair the dam.

Robert Chambers asked Scott Robertson if repairing or removing the dam would affect the upstream headwaters and communities, as farmers above the dam have issues with flooding and unusable land, which they blame on the dam. Scott Robertson informed the Board that the residents in those areas use shallow sand-point wells. As well, Montrose Environmental's hydro-geologist looked into the wells and found that if you were to drop the level of the water by 2 or 3 meters, because it is a sandplain, the cone of influence of the groundwater does not extend more than a hundred meters. As such the dam does not affect above to the next concession. The fluctuations of the ground water table is more influenced by seasons, which have more of an affect to the communities around the stream than the removal or repair of the dam will have.

Jim Palmer asked Scott Robertson how adding two stoplogs to the dam would affect the pond size. Scott Robertson informed the Board that the effect would be relatively marginal, it may extend it a little into the terrestrial wetland, but no effect to community or farms.

FULL AUTHORITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Shelley Ann Bentley, Dave Beres, Doug Brunton, Robert Chambers, Michael Columbus, Ed Ketchabaw, Tom Masschaele, Debera McKeen, Jim Palmer, Chris Van Paassen, Peter Ypma

Peter Ypma asked if the plan was to only replace the concrete on the discharge, as mentioned in the presentation, or are there other issues with the structure. Scott Robertson informed the Board that the concrete was the largest and most noticeable issue, but there were other repairs needed to the dam such as: cracking and exposed rebar; an erosion pool under the dam/spillway; the steel truss bridge to access and operate the dam; and the stop logs amongst other repairs.

Doug Brunton asked if there was a gate on the dam. Scott Robertson responded by saying the dam has a concrete sill and stoplogs, but a sluice gate addition could be explored in the repair design.

Doug Brunton asked if the deeds to the neighbouring properties go to the waters edge. Judy Maxwell informed the Board that Kim Husted is near to finishing the property boundary of Teeterville.

b) Teeterville Dam Environmental Assessment (S. Rahman)

Saifur Rahman presented the Teeterville Dam Environment Assessment report.

Peter Ypma asked staff if there was an estimation as to the apportionment of cost to the County and LPRCA for the dam repair. Judy Maxwell informed the Board that all of the cost for the repair would be a special levy to Norfolk County, but LPRCA would apply for any grants to mitigate the cost.

A - 135/25

Moved by C. Van Paassen
Seconded by M. Columbus

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors receives the Teeterville Dam Class Environmental Assessment Update as information,

AND

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors endorses Alternative #2 to be the preferred option as presented by Montrose Environmental,

AND

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors supports Montrose Environmental to present a deputation to Norfolk County Council.

Carried

c) General Manager's Report (J. Maxwell)

Judy Maxwell provided a report summarizing operations in November and provided a few

FULL AUTHORITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Shelley Ann Bentley, Dave Beres, Doug Brunton, Robert Chambers, Michael Columbus, Ed Ketchabaw, Tom Masschaele, Debera McKeen, Jim Palmer, Chris Van Paassen, Peter Ypma

recent updates on the ERO process and applications for funding for species and risk and invasive species.

A-136/25

Moved by D. McKeen
Seconded by T. Masschaele

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors receives the General Manager's Report for November 2025 as information.

Carried

d) Provincial Announcements: Bill 68 Schedule 3 Proposed Changes to the CA Act and ERO Notice #025-1257 (J. Maxwell)

Judy Maxwell presented the report and presentation to the Board giving an overview of Bill 68, the ERO notice, the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA), and the next steps for Conservation Authorities and LPRCA. Judy Maxwell asked the Board to review the attached motion and for further changes or directions the Board of Directors would like to add to the motion to respond to Bill 68 and the ERO #012-1257, which comments are due by December 22, 2025.

Municipalities have no guarantee of representation in all the information provided so far.

Judy Maxwell asked the Board if members would be attending the regional round table on December 12th, Shelley-Ann Bentley and Ed Ketchabaw had invitations, other Municipalities were sending Board members for their other Conservation Authorities.

Doug Brunton gave the Board details on the meeting had with MPP Bobbi-Ann Brady between himself, Chair Beres, and Judy Maxwell. Bobbi-Ann Brady supported Bill 68, but has signalled support from the Conservation Authorities.

Judy Maxwell asked Board members if any were attending ROMA, and if a Board member should attend exclusively to represent the interests of LPRCA to engage with some of the Ministers and voice LPRCA's concerns. Jim Palmer, Ed Ketchabaw, Shelley-Ann Bentley, Robert Chambers, and Debera McKeen would all be attending. There was a discussion had about sending Vice-Chair Doug Brunton to represent LPRCA.

Judy Maxwell provided an analysis of the proposal and the ERO to give the Board of Directors a summary of all the information provided so far about the changes. Judy Maxwell asked the Board to review the prepared motion on page 77 of the agenda package. Judy Maxwell pointed to the attached correspondences from other CAs and Municipalities to review responses, and mentioned that Windsor took a different stand in response and rejected the entire Bill 68. The prepared motion can be changed to reflect the Board's opinions.

Doug Brunton informed the Board of his concern with the blending of the Conservation Authorities and what that will mean for the reserves and lands here in Norfolk County and the Long Point Region.

FULL AUTHORITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Shelley Ann Bentley, Dave Beres, Doug Brunton, Robert Chambers, Michael Columbus, Ed Ketchabaw, Tom Masschaele, Debera McKeen, Jim Palmer, Chris Van Paassen, Peter Ypma

Chris Van Paassen would like to see the process slowed down. More questions need to be answered, and more time is needed to fully review the process and allow for consultation. More decisions and choices need to remain with local communities. Member Van Paassen can see the sense in a permitting platform, but strongly supports boots on the ground for planning, local expertise is needed for planning and permitting review.

Mike Columbus considers the many questions that are still unanswered by all of the releases from the Provincial Government, questions like: where are the efficiencies; will there be cost benefits and how will this be determined; what are the finances and economics of the amalgamation; who will be responsible for funding.

Shelley Ann Bentley has severe concerns with the proposal. Costs are important and there has been little information given about costs. Who will be responsible to fund the consolidation and the OPCA. One brush for all watersheds and CAs does not seem possible.

Ed Ketchabaw thanked Judy Maxwell and staff for the report and the clear review. Ed Ketchabaw agreed with other Board members in regards to the lack of answers to numerous questions, and some answers received seem to be conflicting.

Peter Ypma highlighted that any permitting issues can be resolved and accomplished in the current format for Conservation Authorities without consolidation. Local representation is important to remain. Board Member Ypma would like to see more restrictive and rejecting language to the proposed regional boundaries in LPRCA's response. The proposed regional boundaries are too big to fully support local communities.

Tom Masschaele notes that the pattern of the Ontario Government is clear, and the government wants every decision to be made in Toronto, eliminating all local boards, local ideals, and local decisions.

Jim Palmer is concerned about the LPRCA reserves and questions if all LPRCA money will just be consolidated towards the bigger cities.

Mike Columbus asks what other countries and provinces do with flooding and watersheds. Judy Maxwell informed the Board that staff were less familiar with other models, but other provinces look to Ontario for its model for flooding and flood response.

Robert Chambers notes that not too many years ago the Ontario Government pushed for watershed planning, and now are pushing the complete opposite. To amalgamate such large areas would be counter to watershed-based planning.

A - 137/25

Moved by C. Van Paassen
Seconded by S. Bentley

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors receives the report as information,
And Approves the motion (attachment #1) in response to the ERO Notice #025-1257.

FULL AUTHORITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Shelley Ann Bentley, Dave Beres, Doug Brunton, Robert Chambers, Michael Columbus, Ed Ketchabaw, Tom Masschaele, Debera McKeen, Jim Palmer, Chris Van Paassen, Peter Ypma

WHEREAS the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has posted Environmental Registry Notice No. 025-1257 (“Proposed Boundaries for the Regional Consolidation of Conservation Authorities”), proposing to reduce Ontario’s 36 Conservation Authorities to seven regional Conservation Authorities under the oversight and direction of the new Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency and the updated Conservation Authorities Act; and

WHEREAS under this proposal, the Long Point Region Conservation Authority (LPRCA) would be merged into a new “Lake Erie Regional Conservation Authority” together with the: Essex Region CA, Lower Thames Valley CA, St. Clair Region CA, Upper Thames River CA, Kettle Creek CA, Catfish Creek CA, and Grand River CA, forming a single organization stretching from Windsor, through London, Brantford and north of Waterloo region; and

WHEREAS the Board acknowledges and supports the Province’s goals of improved efficiency, consistency and fiscal responsibility in conservation delivery, but find that the proposed “Lake Erie Region CA” configuration would create a geographically vast and administratively complex entity, joining municipalities throughout the province with little watershed connection; dilute local accountability and municipal partnership; generate substantial transition costs, including human resources integration, governance restructuring, IT migration and policy harmonization that would divert resources from the front-line service delivery making it hard for applicants to obtain local advice, resolve issues or expedite housing and infrastructure approvals that support the Province’s agenda; and

WHEREAS LPRCA works with its member municipalities, the Province and partners to be fiscally responsible while ensuring the conservation, restoration, development and management of natural resources within the Long Point Region watershed including limiting levy increase to municipalities while modernizing its programs and services and aligning them with provincial guidance and neighboring CAs and will continue to do so. Meaningful modernization can occur with the current watershed-based governance framework; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT LPRCA Board of Directors does not support the proposed “Lake Erie Regional Conservation Authority” boundary configuration outlined in the Environment Registry Notice No. 025-1257; and the Board instead requests that the Ministry further evaluate the proposed boundaries and to engage directly with affected municipalities and Conservation Authorities to establish a reduced geographic scope for consolidation that better reflects established relationships and enhances cost-efficient delivery of integrated watershed management, grassroots connections and local understanding; and

THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (CA Office), local members of Provincial Parliament, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Rural Ontario Municipalities Association, all municipalities and CAs within the proposed Lake Erie Regional Conservation Authority, Ontario’s Chief Conservation Executive and Conservation Ontario.

Carried

FULL AUTHORITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Shelley Ann Bentley, Dave Beres, Doug Brunton, Robert Chambers, Michael Columbus, Ed Ketchabaw, Tom Masschaele, Debera McKeen, Jim Palmer, Chris Van Paassen, Peter Ypma

There was discussion amongst the Board about the response to the ERO itself. Judy Maxwell informed them that staff will draft up a response.

A-138/25

Moved by E. Ketchabaw
Seconded by C. Van Paassen

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors directs the General manger to write up a response and respond to ERO # 012-1257.

Carried

Judy Maxwell asked the Board if LPRCA would be sending delegates to the ROMA conference, and if so, a motion would be needed.

The Board agreed to sending along representatives.

A-139/25

Moved by S. Bentley
Seconded by T. Masschaele

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors send (1) Board delegate and (1) staff delegate from LPRCA to the ROMA conference on January 18-20th to represent LPRCA.

Carried

e) Staff Appreciation (J. Maxwell)

Judy Maxwell presented the report.

A-140/25

Moved by D. McKeen
Seconded by P. Ypma

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors authorizes the General Manager to purchase gift cards for staff in appreciation for their efforts.

Carried

f) 2025 Forestry Update (J. Maxwell)

Judy Maxwell presented the report.

A-141/25

Moved by J. Palmer
Seconded by S. Bentley

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors receives the 2025 Forestry Update report as information.

Carried

FULL AUTHORITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Shelley Ann Bentley, Dave Beres, Doug Brunton, Robert Chambers, Michael Columbus, Ed Ketchabaw, Tom Masschaele, Debera McKeen, Jim Palmer, Chris Van Paassen, Peter Ypma

g) Vittoria Dam EA Implementation Design - Consulting Service (S. Rahman)

Saifur Rahman presented the report.

Chris Van Paassen asked if staff would reach out to Norfolk County engineers who were looking at repairing the bridge over the dam in 2027, LPRCA and Norfolk County should work together on repairs.

A-142/25

Moved by T. Masschaele
Seconded by M. Columbus

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors approve retaining GeoProcess Research Associates Inc. to undertake the Vittoria Dam Environmental Assessment Implementation Design at a cost of \$114,021.00 (excluding HST), plus \$9,620.00 for contingency items with a total upside of \$123,641.00

Carried

h) Ontario Regulation 41/24 Regulation Mapping Update (L. Mauthe)

Leigh-Anne Mauthe presented the report. Leigh-Anne Mauthe corrected an error in the report in which it was written "September 25th to October 1st, 2026" the "2026" should have been "2025".

Peter Ypma asked staff where the maps go to when sent to the Municipalities. Leigh-Anne Mauthe informed the Board that the maps will be sent to the GIS departments of the municipalities and the planning department of each municipality is informed.

Chris Van Paassen asked staff why some of the hazard areas had expanded in these maps even though one of the rule changes from the government was to reduce the regulated area from 120m to 30m. Leigh-Anne Mauthe informed that Board that multiple flood line studies and mapping studies gave LPRCA better information on riverine areas. All maps have been double and triple checked by staff, with the better equipment like LiDAR some of the areas did increase the regulated area. Newly identified wetlands by MNRF also contributed to the expanded areas.

Peter Ypma asked staff if changes were made to the 100-year flood line on the mapping. Leigh-Anne Mauthe responded in the affirmative. All of the completed work and studies that were done over the last few years in the region have provided new flood elevations.

A-143/25

Moved by C. Van Paassen
Seconded by T. Masschaele

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors approve the final draft regulation mapping for administering Ontario Regulation 41/24,

FULL AUTHORITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Shelley Ann Bentley, Dave Beres, Doug Brunton, Robert Chambers, Michael Columbus, Ed Ketchabaw, Tom Masschaele, Debera McKeen, Jim Palmer, Chris Van Paassen, Peter Ypma

AND

THAT staff be directed post the final mapping on the Authority's website and distribute to member municipalities for their information and use,

AND

THAT staff be directed to complete annual updates to the mapping in accordance with Ontario Regulation 41/24.

i) Backus Architectural and Structural Building Assessment Report (J. Maxwell)

Tom Masschaele reminded the Board of his conflict of interest for the item.

Judy Maxwell presented the report.

Mike Columbus asked staff if the report and site assessment would be presented to the Backus Museum Committee. Judy Maxwell responded in the affirmative.

Mike Columbus asked staff what will happen to the artifacts in some of the poorly assessed buildings. Judy Maxwell informed the Board that the artifacts are part of the collection, and as such would be dealt with prior to any work on the buildings and structures that hold them.

Chris Van Paassen noted that some of the structures in bad condition are not historic structures, but just a roof over an artifact, would staff be building a new structure or removing. Judy Maxwell informed the Board that the structures will be eliminated.

Chris Van Paassen noted that the assessment said the maintenance of the buildings was behind. Should LPRCA hire another maintenance person to help keep up with the required fixes and maintenance of the historic site. Judy Maxwell informed the Board that staff will evaluate that and may need a sub-contractor.

Shelley Ann Bentley asked staff if the removal of the unsafe buildings would free up more space for camping. Judy Maxwell informed the Board that the spots the buildings are in are not suitable for camping.

A-144/25

Moved by R. Chambers

Seconded by J. Palmer

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors receives the Architectural and Structural Building Assessment Report as information.

Carried

Next meeting: January 7, 2025, Board of Directors at 6:30 p.m.

FULL AUTHORITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Shelley Ann Bentley, Dave Beres, Doug Brunton, Robert Chambers, Michael Columbus, Ed Ketchabaw, Tom Masschaele, Debera McKeen, Jim Palmer, Chris Van Paassen, Peter Ypma

Adjournment

The Acting Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

Doug Brunton
Acting Chair

Judy Maxwell
General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

/ns

DRAFT

FULL AUTHORITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Shelley Ann Bentley, Dave Beres, Doug Brunton, Robert Chambers, Michael Columbus, Ed Ketchabaw, Tom Masschaele, Debera McKeen, Jim Palmer, Chris Van Paassen, Peter Ypma

LONG POINT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Backus Museum Committee – Meeting Minutes of June 2, 2025
Approved December 18, 2025

Members in Attendance:

Chair, Tom Masschaele
Dave Beres
Heather Smith
Julie Stone
Jim Palmer
Madaline Wilson
Peter Ypma

Regrets: None

Staff in Attendance:

Judy Maxwell, General Manager
Sarah Pointer, Curator
Nicole Sullivan, HR Coordinator/Executive Assistant

1) Welcome and call to order

The Chair, Heather Smith, called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m. Monday, June 2, 2025.

2) Additional Agenda Items

Heather Smith asked that a letter from Russ King be added to item 8 f) on the agenda and Julie Stone asked that a discussion on the role of the Committee be added to item 8 g) on the agenda.

BMC – 1 – 2025

Moved by: Madaline Wilson
Seconded by: Jim Palmer

THAT the Backus Museum Committee adds Russ King's letter to agenda item 8f) and the role of the Committee to agenda item 8g).

Carried

3) Approval of Agenda

BMC – 2 – 2025

Moved by: Peter Ypma
Seconded by: Dave Beres

THAT the Backus Museum Committee approves the agenda as amended

Carried

4) Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

None were declared.

5) Election of Chair for 2025

BACKUS MUSEUM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dave Beres, Robert Chambers, Tom Masschaele, Heather Smith, Julie Stone, Madaline Wilson, and Peter Ypma.

Heather Smith vacated the Chair's position and thanked everyone for the opportunity.

6) Call for Nominations

Dave Beres nominated Tom Masschaele for the Chair position. There were no other nominations for the Chair role. The nominations for the Chair were closed.

7) Election Results

Tom Masschaele was declared the Long Point Region Conservation Authority Backus Museum Committee Chair for 2025.

8) Review of previous Minutes

a) October 28, 2024

Heather Smith and Julie Stone noted a discussion on the requirements for the opening of the museum and a detailed plan were not in the minutes. The addition will be added.

BMC – 3 – 2025

Moved by: Madaline Wilson

Seconded by: Dave Beres

THAT the minutes of the LPRCA Backus Museum Committee held October 28, 2024 be approved as amended.

Carried

9) Business Arising

None.

10) New Business:

a) Operational Update

There was a long discussion had about the opening of the Museum within the historic site. Heather Smith and Julie Stone want more clear rationalization from staff as to why the museum cannot be opened. Judy Maxwell and Sarah Pointer reiterated that the site assessment on the agenda item 8 e) would cover some of that and was a starting point for figuring out how best to safely reopen the museum.

Additionally, staff informed the committee that with the categorizing of the Historic site as a Category 3 under the *Conservation Authorities Act*, funding is much harder to receive. The Canadian Museum Operating Grant (CMOG) is no longer an option for funding, the roof and eaves need to be addressed, staff or volunteers need to be in place to ensure the safety and security of the site and collection, the furnace needs to be replaced, there is no existing signage on the collection for visitors to read and understand the collection without interpretation, and the building itself needs to be assessed for its condition.

BACKUS MUSEUM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dave Beres, Robert Chambers, Tom Masschaele, Heather Smith, Julie Stone, Peter Ypma, and Madaline Wilson.

Julie Stone knows people who will volunteer their time. Mary Charles asked staff about more volunteers. Sarah Pointer asks the committee members to have any volunteers brought forward, at this time Sarah Pointer has received no volunteer enquires from anyone in the community for the historic museum.

Tom Masschaele informs the committee that volunteers can be difficult, not just because of job replacement, but because of liability and insurance. Norfolk County closed Teeterville Museum for the same reasons that LPRCA is struggling with. Jim Palmer also added that Norwich was having similar issues with funding and shoring up support for the historic sites and heritage in Norwich. Peter Ypma mentioned that Beachville Museum was having good success and it may be beneficial to reach out to the Curator of the Museum to get information on the events Beachville has.

Mary Charles asked about forming a sub-committee to handle the museum opening and other museum focused issues to work on it monthly, have the museum be a focus, and to help back Sarah Pointer with volunteers. Sarah Pointer informed the committee that help from committee members with outreach to potential volunteers and bringing help in would be appreciated.

Julie Stone and Heather Smith are hearing from the community at large about the prolonged closure of the museum. Julie Stone and Heather Smith would like a plan for opening to be brought forward. Staff informed the committee a limited opening of the Museum will be looked into.

Tom Masschaele asks the committee to hold the discussion on the museum until staff can bring forward a report with a plan, and have a meeting booked near the end of the month.

The Curator, Sarah Pointer, presented the Operational Update.

Jim Palmer asked staff about any issues that may arise with the school board contracts with the changes the government is making. Staff has continued with the status quo until more information is available.

BMC – 4 – 2025

Moved by: Mary Charles
Seconded by: Dave Beres

THAT the LPRCA Backus Museum Committee receives the Operational Update report as information.

Carried

b) Summer Events Report

Sarah Pointer presented Summer Events report.

Madeline Wilson asked if staff reached out to Mr. Cowan on Front Rd who has birds of prey for the owl prowl. Sarah Pointer was unaware of Mr. Cowan and asked to have his contact information.

BACKUS MUSEUM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dave Beres, Robert Chambers, Tom Masschaele, Heather Smith, Julie Stone, Peter Ypma, and Madaline Wilson.

BMC – 5 – 2025

Moved by: Jim Palmer

Seconded by: Heather Smith

THAT the LPRCA Backus Museum Committee receives the Summer Events report as information.

Carried

c) Community Member Application – Wanda Backus Kelly

Sarah Pointer gave the report and reviewed the application for Wanda Backus Kelly to join the Backus Museum Committee as a community member. There were no questions.

BMC – 6 – 2025

Moved by: Madaline Wilson

Seconded by: Heather Smith

THAT the LPRCA Backus Museum Committee appoint Wanda Backus-Kelly as a community representative to the Backus Museum Committee.

Carried

d) Community Member Application – Trevor Shelly

Sarah Pointer gave the report and reviewed the application for Trevor Shelly to join the Backus Museum Committee as a community member. There were no questions.

BMC – 7 – 2025

Moved by: Mary Charles

Seconded by: Dave Beres

THAT the LPRCA Backus Museum Committee appoint Trevor Shelly as a community representative to the Backus Museum Committee.

Carried

e) Historic Site Facility Assessment Report

Sarah Pointer gave the report on the Historic Site Facility Assessment being done by PK Construction.

Peter Ypma asked if LPRCA pursued having MOUs or other contracts to help fund the historic site after its designation as a Category 3 under the *Conservation Authorities Act*. Judy Maxwell informed the committee that it was pursued, but not successful.

Heather Smith asked staff about the split in the revenues with heritage and other departments. Judy Maxwell informed the committee that each department is operated separately in LPRCA's financial codes, this separation to comply with changes in the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

BACKUS MUSEUM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dave Beres, Robert Chambers, Tom Masschaele, Heather Smith, Julie Stone, Peter Ypma, and Madaline Wilson.

Mary Charles asked if the assessment report would also consider the historic value and significance to the buildings. To expand, Mary Charles added that the historic value should also matter along with the cost of any repairs.

Heather Smith asked about the new metal roof on the Cherryhill school and the chimney, and was unsure why a metal roof was put on a historic building. Judy Maxwell informed the committee that the new metal roof was put on the school due to active leaking. Sarah Pointer added that with the active leaks a metal roof was the best and most affordable solution, a cedar shake roof is expensive to install and expensive to maintain.

BMC – 8 – 2025

Moved by: Peter Ypma
Seconded by: Jim Palmer

THAT the LPRCA Backus Museum Committee receives the Museum Project Update report as information.

Carried

f) Russ King Letter (Added)

Heather Smith added a letter from Russ King, a person within the Port Rowan community, who informs the committee about the desire for the Museum to be opened, specifically the marine part of the exhibit.

Heather Smith suggests that the committee have a letter drafted back to Russ King and invite him to give his feedback. Mary Charles and Madaline Wilson can meet him on a Wednesday along with Sarah Pointer to discuss his feedback and volunteering.

BMC – 9 – 2025

Moved by: Dave Beres
Seconded by: Madaline Wilson

THAT the LPRCA Backus Museum Committee receives the letter from Russ King as information.

Carried

g) Role of the Committee (Added)

Julie Stone wants to know what the role of the committee is to better understand what the members are meant to be engaging with, as decoys were purchased without consulting the committee and other acquisitions.

Heather Smith notes that the committee has shifted and changed over the years and the committee is no longer as informed about the buildings anymore or the artifacts that are acquired. Heather Smith hears about problems the community has, but it is unsure how to bring it up the right way with the committee and would like that made clearer. Heather Smith would like to know if the role of the community members is as community liaison or museum experts.

BACKUS MUSEUM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dave Beres, Robert Chambers, Tom Masschaele, Heather Smith, Julie Stone, Peter Ypma, and Madaline Wilson.

Sarah Pointer informed the committee that there is existing terms of reference and governance policy that can be sent out to the committee and discussed for review.

The committee decided that the role of the committee/terms of reference would be brought forward by staff in the later meeting. The meeting scheduled for July 7th will only be to discuss the Museum opening.

BMC – 10 – 2025

Moved by: Madaline Wilson

Seconded by: Mary Charles

THAT the LPRCA Backus Museum Committee receives the Museum Project Update report as information.

Carried

Adjournment

The chair adjourned the meeting at 11:28 a.m.

Tom Masschaele
Chair

Sarah Pointer
Curator

/ns

BACKUS MUSEUM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dave Beres, Robert Chambers, Tom Masschaele, Heather Smith, Julie Stone, Peter Ypma, and Madaline Wilson.

LONG POINT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Lee Brown Marsh Management Committee Minutes of August 19, 2025
Approved December 19, 2025

The Lee Brown Marsh Management Committee (LBMMC) met at the Marsh residence, Port Rowan, on Tuesday August 19, 2025.

Members present: Chair Tom Haskett, Doug Brunton, Larry Chanda, and Lou Kociuk

Staff present: Judy Maxwell, General Manager, Kim Brown, Marsh Manager, and Nicole Sullivan, HR Coordinator/Executive Assistant.

Regrets: Michael Columbus

1. Welcome and call to order

Chair Haskett called the meeting to order at 3:59 p.m.

2. Additional Agenda Items

Lou Kociuk asked the committee to add a discussion on the Lee Brown land rental to the agenda.

LB-12/25

Moved by D. Brunton
Seconded by L. Chanda

THAT the Lee Brown Marsh Management Committee adds Lee Brown Land Rental under New Business as item 8 (c) to the August 19, 2025 agenda.

Carried

3. Approval of the Agenda

LB-13/25

Moved by L. Kociuk
Seconded by L. Chanda

THAT the Lee Brown Marsh Management Committee approves the agenda as amended.

Carried

4. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest:

None declared.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS
K. Brown, D. Brunton, L. Chanda,
M. Columbus, T. Haskett, L. Kociuk

5. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

LB-14/25

Moved by D. Brunton
Seconded by L. Kociuk

THAT the minutes of the Lee Brown Marsh Management Committee meeting held May 15, 2025 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

The committee asked the Marsh Manager some follow-up questions about the items in the last meeting. Larry Chanda asked Kim Brown about the drainage fix. Kim Brown let the committee know that the fix done earlier in the year has been very effective.

Tom Haskett asked Kim Brown about the new mud motor. Kim Brown informed the committee that motor estimates have been collected and more information is required from the sellers.

6. Business Arising:

None.

7. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

8. New Business:

a) Marsh Manager's Update

1. General Updates

- Kim Brown informed the committee that patches of phragmites that were found in the marsh were sprayed by Giles and NCC using marsh masters.
- The fall hunt is booked solid for the 2025 season. Kim Brown informed the committee that other contacts in the region who had more knowledge of the avian flu were not worried about it as much this year.
- Kim Brown informed the committee that there have been a few issues with the dredge over the season, there may be an issue within the cylinder.
- Kim Brown informed the committee that the gravity feed bin needs to be fixed or replaced as four rusty holes have appeared on the bottom. The Committee recommended that Kim Brown get the holes patched as the frame is still good.
- The pumphouse deck and bearings to be started in September and repairs to be done by LPRCA staff.

LB-8/25

Moved by L. Chanda

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**K. Brown, D. Brunton, L. Chanda,
M. Columbus, T. Haskett, L. Kociuk**

Seconded by D. Brunton

THAT the Lee Brown Marsh Management Committee receives the Marsh Manager's Update as information.

Carried

b) Feeding Permit Update

1. Feeding Permit

- Kim Brown informed the committee that the 2025 feeding permits were received. Doug Brunton asked if the government comes in to check the Lee Brown baiting. Kim Brown informed the committee that usually there is a check once a year.

LB-8/25

Moved by D. Brunton

Seconded by L. Chanda

THAT the Lee Brown Marsh Management Committee receives the Marsh Manager's feeding permit update as information.

Carried

c) Lee Brown Land Rental

Lou Kociuk asked the committee about what is covered in the contract for the Lee Brown Marsh land rental and what falls under the responsibility of the tenant vs. the landowner. Specifically, Lou Kociuk was seeking out clarification on the soil.

Kim Brown and Judy Maxwell informed the committee that the soil is tested prior to the land rental agreement and the soil must be returned to the levels by the tenant at the end of the term.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:42 p.m.

Tom Haskett
LBMMC Chair

Judy Maxwell
General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

/ns

COMMITTEE MEMBERS
K. Brown, D. Brunton, L. Chanda,
M. Columbus, T. Haskett, L. Kociuk

LONG POINT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Lee Brown Marsh Management Committee Minutes of December 19, 2025
Approved December 24, 2025

The Lee Brown Marsh Management Committee (LBMMC) met at the Marsh residence, Port Rowan, on Friday December 19, 2025.

Members present: Chair Tom Haskett, Doug Brunton, Michael Columbus, and Larry Chanda.

Staff present: Judy Maxwell, General Manager, Kim Brown, Marsh Manager, and Nicole Sullivan, HR Coordinator/Executive Assistant.

Regrets: Lou Kociuk

1. Welcome and call to order

Chair Haskett called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. Additional Agenda Items

No additional agenda items were brought forth.

LB-17/25

Moved by L. Chanda
Seconded D. Bruton

THAT the Lee Brown Marsh Management Committee approves the agenda as circulated.

Carried

3. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest:

None declared.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

LB-18/25

Moved by M. Columbus
Seconded by L. Chanda

THAT the minutes of the Lee Brown Marsh Management Committee meeting held August 19, 2025 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

COMMITTEE MEMBERS
K. Brown, D. Brunton, L. Chanda,
M. Columbus, T. Haskett, L. Kociuk

5. Business Arising:

None.

6. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

7. New Business:

a) Marsh Manager's Update

1. Fall Hunt

- The season was full for hunting until early December when a freeze put three inches of ice on the Marsh. There was a marked decrease in duck numbers for the 2025 hunt season, the least amount of ducks seen in years. The very steep decrease may be from multiple factors; Drought in the summer, less habitat, rise in coyotes, etc.

2. General Updates

- Kim Brown informed the Committee that patches of phragmites have reappeared in the Marsh and that this invasive species will need to be addressed further in 2026. The Phragmites were sprayed by Giles in the fall, but more spraying needs to be done. Judy Maxwell informed the committee that more funding was applied for to combat phragmites in the 2026 season.
- Kim Brown informed the Committee that there were issues with beavers damaging the blinds in the marsh this season.
- Kim Brown informed the Committee that he contacted Ducks Unlimited about a project to improve the pumphouse on the Robinson property.
- Kim Brown gave the Committee updates on the 2026 season. Kim Brown and Judy Maxwell will work together to create a plan for the Marsh in 2026.

LB-19/25

Moved by M. Columbus

Seconded by D. Brunton

THAT the Lee Brown Marsh Management Committee receives the Marsh Manager's Update as information.

Carried

b) Financial Update

Judy Maxwell presented the financial update to November 30, 2025. There was discussion about the positive financial position that the Lee Brown Marsh is in.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**K. Brown, D. Brunton, L. Chanda,
M. Columbus, T. Haskett, L. Kociuk**

LB-20/25

Moved by D. Brunton
Seconded by M. Columbus

THAT the Lee Brown Marsh Management Committee receives the Financial update as information.

Carried

c) Provincial Announcements – Bill 68 and ERO #025-1257

Judy Maxwell presented the Provincial Announcements report to the Committee.

Doug Brunton states concern for what will happen to the Lee Brown Marsh under these changes, especially with the potential erosion of local management.

The Committee discussed the original agreement for the Lee Brown Marsh property and what the agreement says in regards to ownership and the conditions of the donation.

Larry Chanda asks what will happen to the Lee Brown Marsh and the Committee under Bill 68 and the amalgamation if it happens. Judy Maxwell informed the Committee that nothing is known about what would happen to land management and committees under the new proposal and not much is known about the full scope of the OPCA.

There was discussion about the consolidation of the Conservation Authorities by all members of the Committee and how it would have a negative impact on LPRCA and the Lee Brown Marsh Committee.

LB-21/25

Moved by M. Columbus
Seconded by L. Chanda

THAT the Lee Brown Marsh Management Committee receives the Provincial Announcements update as information.

Carried

There was further discussion amongst the committee members about options for the Lee Brown Marsh complex going forward. The Committee felt strongly that a motion be included for the Board of Directors consideration.

LB-22/25

Moved by D. Brunton
Seconded by L. Chanda

WHEREAS Bill 68 (Schedule 3) proposes the creation of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency, a Crown corporation that would assume governance and

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**K. Brown, D. Brunton, L. Chanda,
M. Columbus, T. Haskett, L. Kociuk**

responsibilities of all Conservation Authority land, whose objects include overseeing conservation authorities and the transition to a regional watershed-based framework for conservation authorities in Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has posted Environmental Registry Notice No. 025-1257 (“Proposed Boundaries for the Regional Consolidation of Ontario’s Conservation Authorities”), proposing to reduce Ontario’s 36 conservation authorities to 7 regional entities as part of a broader restructuring; and

WHEREAS Conservation Authorities collectively own and manage thousands of hectares of land, much of which was donated by local residents as a personal legacy for long-term protection, stewardship, and the public good; and

WHEREAS Bill 68 and the creation of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency leaves donated land in jeopardy of leaving local control; and

WHEREAS the original agreement of the Lee Brown Marsh donation and governance was established; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lee Brown Marsh Management Committee recommends to the Board of Directors to explore options for the future operations and ownership of the Lee Brown Marsh complex.

Carried

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:35 p.m.

Tom Haskett
LBMMC Chair

Judy Maxwell
General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

/ns

COMMITTEE MEMBERS
K. Brown, D. Brunton, L. Chanda,
M. Columbus, T. Haskett, L. Kociuk



COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

Township of Conmee

Resolution No.: 2025-088 234

Date: December 8, 2025

Moved By: Councillor Grant Arnold

Seconded By: Councillor David Halvorsen

WHEREAS the *Conservation Authorities Act (1946)* enables municipalities to establish local conservation authorities, and when municipalities choose to form such authorities, they assume responsibility for governance and funding through the appointment of a Board of Directors and the provision of an annual levy to cover expenses;

AND WHEREAS the municipalities within Lakehead Region established the Neebing Valley Conservation Authority in 1954 which enlarged to the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRCA) in 1963;

AND WHEREAS local municipalities currently provide approximately 50% of total conservation authority funding, while the Province of Ontario provides approximately 5%;

AND WHEREAS municipalities have governed their respective conservation authorities for decades, tailoring programs and services to local watershed needs, maintaining accountable service standards, and ensuring fair and predictable costs for ratepayers;

AND WHEREAS conservation authorities collectively own and manage thousands of hectares of land, much of which was donated by local residents and entrusted to conservation authorities as a personal legacy for long-term protection, stewardship, and the public good, with the expectation that such lands would be cared for by locally governed conservation authorities;

AND WHEREAS Bill 68 (Schedule 3) proposes the creation of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency, a Crown corporation that would assume governance responsibilities and consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into seven regional authorities, with municipal cost apportionment yet to be defined;

AND WHEREAS the Province already possesses the authority to establish overarching legislation, regulations, and standards through the *Conservation Authorities Act* and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Conmee calls on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed,

watershed-based conservation authorities to ensure strong local representation in decisions related to municipal levies, community-focused service delivery, and the protection and management of conservation lands;

AND THAT while the Township of Conmee supports provincial goals for consistent permit approval processes, shared services, and digital modernization, imposing a new top-down agency structure without strong local accountability and governance risks creating unnecessary cost, red tape, and bureaucracy, thereby undermining efficiency and responsiveness to local community needs;

AND THAT the Township of Conmee supports efforts to balance expertise, capacity, and program delivery across the province, and requests that the Province work collaboratively with municipalities and local conservation authorities to determine the most effective level of strategic consolidation to achieve both provincial and local objectives;

AND THAT the Township of Conmee is opposed to the proposed "Huron-Superior Regional Conservation Authority" boundary configuration outlined in Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257;

AND THAT the Township of Conmee recommends that the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority form the "Northwestern Ontario Regional Conservation Authority";

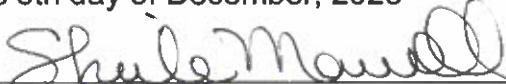
AND THAT the Ministry engage directly with affected municipalities of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority, before finalizing any consolidation boundaries or legislative amendments;

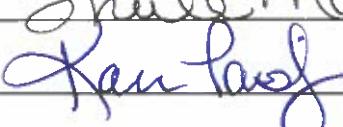
AND THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Environmental Registry of Ontario consultations and to:

- the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and his Opposition critics;
- local Members of Provincial Parliament;
- local Members of Parliament;
- the Association of Municipalities of Ontario;
- Conservation Ontario;
- All local municipalities; and
- All Conservation Authorities in Ontario.

Carried Defeated Amended Deferred

Signed this 8th day of December, 2025

Mayor:  Sheila Maxwell

Clerk:  Karen Paisley

COUNCIL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER
TO OUR FILE NO. _____

November 28, 2025

Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office
Room 281, Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford,

Windsor City Council, at its meeting held November 24, 2025, adopted the following resolution:

Decision Number: CR481/2025

WHEREAS Ontario's Conservation Authorities play a critical role in watershed management, environmental protection, flood mitigation, and public safety across the province; and,

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has introduced Bill 68, which contains significant and far-reaching amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act* that would alter governance structures, decision-making authorities, and municipal participation in conservation authority oversight; and,

WHEREAS the proposed changes were introduced within an omnibus bill without the benefit of a standalone legislative process that would allow for comprehensive public input, stakeholder consultation, or sufficient scrutiny regarding their long-term environmental, financial, and public safety implications; and,

WHEREAS municipalities are key partners in watershed management and must retain a strong, meaningful voice in any new governance model to ensure that local knowledge, local priorities, and local risks are fully considered in provincial decision-making; and,

WHEREAS the potential impacts of the proposed amendments may increase risks to the public related to flooding, erosion, natural heritage loss, and environmental degradation if not properly analyzed and addressed through an open and transparent legislative process; and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Windsor strongly urge the Provincial Government of Ontario to withdraw all sections of Bill 68 related to amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act*; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province be requested to re-introduce any proposed changes as a standalone bill, to proceed through the full and regular legislative process—including First and Second Readings, Committee review, stakeholder submissions, and public consultation—to ensure that the impacts on watershed management, environmental protection, and public safety are fully and transparently considered; and,

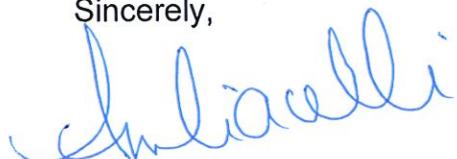
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province ensure that any future governance framework for Ontario's Conservation Authorities includes robust and clearly defined municipal representation, recognizing municipalities as essential partners in protecting watersheds and mitigating environmental risks; and,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT a copy of this motion be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, local Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA), and all Ontario municipalities and Conservation Authorities for their information and support.

Carried.

Your consideration to Windsor City Council's resolution would be most appreciated.

Sincerely,



Anna Ciacelli
Deputy City Clerk and Supervisor of Council Services
AC/lh

cc: Mr. Todd McCarthy, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Mr. Harb Gill, Member of Parliament, Windsor West
Ms. Kathy Borrelli, Member of Parliament, Windsor-Tecumseh-Lakeshore
Mr. Andrew Dowie, Member of Provincial Parliament, Windsor-Tecumseh
Ms. Lisa Gretzky, Member of Provincial Parliament, Windsor West
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

Tim Byrne, Chief Administrative Officer & Secretary Treasurer, Board of Directors, Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA)
Nicole Kupnicki, Manager, Human Resources & Council Services of the Essex Region Conservation Authority
All Ontario municipalities and Conservation Authorities



December 5, 2025

VIA EMAIL: minister.mecp@ontario.ca

Honourable Todd McCarthy
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
5th Flr, 777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Re: Proposed Boundaries for the Regional Consolidation of Ontario's Conservation Authorities

Dear Minister McCarthy,

Council of the Municipality of Neebing reviewed your Ministry's proposal related to boundaries for the regional consolidation of Ontario's conservation authorities (ERO Posting 025-1257).

At their meeting on December 3, 2025, Council carried the following resolution:

WHEREAS the *Conservation Authorities Act* (1946) enables municipalities to establish local conservation authorities, and when municipalities choose to form such authorities, they assume responsibility for governance and funding through the appointment of a Board of Directors and the provision of an annual levy to cover expenses;

AND WHEREAS the municipalities within Lakehead Region established the Neebing Valley Conservation Authority in 1954 which enlarged to the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRCA) in 1963;

AND WHEREAS local municipalities currently provide approximately 50% of total conservation authority funding, while the Province of Ontario provides approximately 5%;

AND WHEREAS municipalities have governed their respective conservation authorities for decades, tailoring programs and services to local watershed needs, maintaining accountable service standards, and ensuring fair and predictable costs for ratepayers;

AND WHEREAS conservation authorities collectively own and manage thousands of hectares of land, much of which was donated by local residents as a personal legacy for long-term protection, stewardship, and the public good;

AND WHEREAS proposed governance changes risk undermining community trust and donor confidence, as these contributions were made with the expectation of local accountability and decision-making in the care and management of these lands;

AND WHEREAS Bill 68 (Schedule 3) proposes creating the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA), a Crown corporation that would assume governance responsibilities and consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into seven regional authorities; however, municipal cost apportionment, the overall cost of establishing and operating the OPCA, and the anticipated cost of consolidation remain undisclosed, creating significant uncertainty for municipalities and ratepayers, even as local watershed advisory boards would still be needed for oversight;

AND WHEREAS the Province already possesses the authority to establish overarching legislation, regulations, and standards through the *Conservation Authorities Act* and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;

AND WHEREAS such consolidation risks the loss of local viewpoints and representation, reducing the ability of communities to influence decisions that directly affect their watersheds, conservation lands, and municipal levies;

AND WHEREAS the Lakehead Region is located over 1,300 kilometers away from the other conservation authorities, making the proposed "Huron-Superior Regional Conservation Authority" boundary configuration geographically impractical and disconnected from local watershed realities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Neebing calls on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities to ensure strong local representation in decisions related to municipal levies, community-focused service delivery, and the protection and management of conservation lands;

AND THAT the Council of the Municipality of Neebing requests that the Province provide full transparency regarding the projected costs of establishing the OPCA and consolidating conservation authorities, including the impact on municipal levies and ratepayers, before implementing any governance changes;

AND FURTHER THAT the Council of the Municipality of Neebing supports provincial goals for consistent permit approval processes, shared services, and digital modernization, but imposing a new top-down agency structure without strong local accountability and governance risks creating unnecessary cost, red tape, and bureaucracy, thereby undermining efficiency and responsiveness to local community needs;

AND FURTHER THAT the Council of the Municipality of Neebing supports efforts to balance expertise, capacity, and program delivery across the province, and requests that the Province work collaboratively with municipalities and local conservation authorities to determine the most effective level of strategic consolidation to achieve both provincial and local objectives;

AND FURTHER THAT Council of the Municipality of Neebing is opposed to the proposed “Huron-Superior Regional Conservation Authority” boundary configuration outlined in Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257;

AND FURTHER THAT the Council of the Municipality of Neebing recommends that the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority form the “Northwestern Ontario Regional Conservation Authority”;

AND FURTHER THAT the Ministry engage directly with affected municipalities of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority, before finalizing any consolidation boundaries or legislative amendments;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Environmental Registry of Ontario consultations and to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and his Opposition critics; MPP Kevin Holland; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; Conservation Ontario; all local municipalities; and all conservation authorities in Ontario.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Erika Kromm
Clerk Treasurer
(Resolution No. 2025-12-281)

cc: Public Input Coordinator, MECP Conservation and Source Protection Branch
Peter Tabuns, Opposition Critic, tabunsp-qp@ndp.on.ca
MPP Kevin Holland, kevin.holland@pc.ola.org
Association of Municipalities of Ontario, resolutions@amo.on.ca
Conservation Ontario, info@conservationontario.ca
All Conservation Authorities
All Local Municipalities

TOWNSHIP OF EDWARDSBURGH/CARDINAL

Resolution Number 2014-339

December 8, 2025

Moved By: John McEwan

Seconded By: John McEwan

WHEREAS the *Conservation Authorities Act (1946)* enables municipalities to establish Conservation Authorities and appoint locally elected representatives to their Boards, ensuring direct municipal oversight and accountability for programs funded by municipal taxpayers;

AND WHEREAS SNC delivers essential services that support municipal responsibilities, including:

- natural hazard identification and permitting;
- watershed planning and development review;
- flood forecasting, emergency management, and low water response;
- drinking water source protection;
- watershed monitoring, reporting, and technical studies;
- sustainable forestry, agricultural stewardship, and restoration programs;
- management of over 13,000 acres of conservation lands, including lands donated by residents and managed through municipal service agreements;

AND WHEREAS the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal is concerned that restructuring may:

- increase red tape and administrative burden;
- impose significant transition costs for HR, IT, land transfers, and governance realignment;
- dilute rural voices within large regional agencies dominated by major urban centres;
- erode donor confidence and affect the stewardship of thousands of acres of locally donated lands;
- disrupt bilingual service delivery in designated municipalities governed by the *French Language Services Act*;

AND WHEREAS SNC already collaborates regionally through successful shared-service models, joint watershed studies, coordinated flood forecasting, agricultural stewardship partnerships, digital permitting, and harmonized technical reviews, demonstrating that modernization and efficiency can be achieved without dismantling local governance structures;

TOWNSHIP OF EDWARDSBURGH CARDINAL

December 8, 2025

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal urges the Government of Ontario maintain South Nation Conservation as a local, municipally governed, watershed-based Conservation Authority;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to:

- the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;
- local MPPs and MPs;
- all municipalities within the South Nation Watershed;
- the Association of Municipalities of Ontario;
- the Rural Ontario Municipal Association;
- Conservation Ontario; and
- all Conservation Authorities in Ontario.

Carried Defeated Unanimous
Mayor: 

RECORDED VOTE REQUESTED BY: _____

NAME	YEA	NAY
Councillor J. Martelle		
Councillor W. Smail		
Councillor C. Ward		
Deputy Mayor S. Dillabough		
Mayor T. Deschamps		
TOTAL		



Fa)

United Counties of
Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry

RESOLUTION

MOVED BY Councillor Densham

RESOLUTION NO 2025- 159

SECONDED BY

DATE November 17, 2025

WHEREAS the Conservation Authorities Act (1946) enables municipalities to establish local conservation authorities, and when municipalities choose to form such authorities, they assume responsibility for governance and funding through the appointment of a Board of Directors and the provision of an annual levy to cover expenses;

AND WHEREAS the municipalities within Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry (SDG) established South Nation Conservation (SNC) in 1947 and the Raisin Region Conservation Authority (RRCA) in 1963;

AND WHEREAS local municipalities currently provide between 25% and 50% of total conservation authority funding, while the Province of Ontario provides approximately 3%;

AND WHEREAS municipalities have governed their respective conservation authorities for decades, tailoring programs and services to local watershed needs, maintaining accountable service standards, and ensuring fair and predictable costs for ratepayers;

AND WHEREAS conservation authorities collectively own and manage thousands of acres of land, much of which was donated by local residents and entrusted to conservation authorities as a personal legacy for long-term protection, stewardship, and the public good, with the expectation that such lands would be cared for by locally governed conservation authorities;

AND WHEREAS Bill 68 (Schedule 3) proposes the creation of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency, a Crown corporation that would assume governance responsibilities and consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into seven regional authorities, with municipal cost apportionment yet to be defined;

AND WHEREAS the Province already possesses the authority to establish overarching legislation, regulations, and standards through the Conservation Authorities Act and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry calls on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities to ensure strong local

representation in decisions related to municipal levies, community-focused service delivery, and the protection and management of conservation lands;

AND FURTHER THAT while the United Counties of SDG supports provincial goals for consistent permit approval processes, shared services, and digital modernization, imposing a new top-down agency structure without strong local accountability and governance risks creating unnecessary cost, red tape, and bureaucracy, thereby undermining efficiency and responsiveness to local community needs;

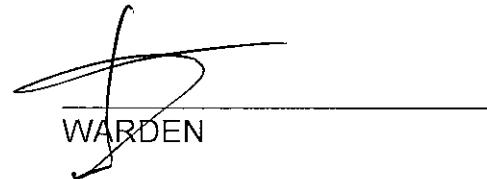
AND FURTHER THAT the United Counties of SDG supports efforts to balance expertise, capacity, and program delivery across the province, and requests that the Province work collaboratively with municipalities and local conservation authorities to determine the most effective level of strategic consolidation to achieve both provincial and local objectives.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Ontario Minister of Environment, Conservation, and Parks, to the local MP and MPPs, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Rural Ontario Municipal Association, and all municipalities and Conservation Authorities in Ontario.

CARRIED

DEFEATED

DEFERRED



WARDEN

Recorded Vote:

Councillor Bergeron	_____
Councillor Broad	_____
Councillor Densham	_____
Councillor Fraser	_____
Councillor Guindon	_____
Councillor Landry	_____
Councillor MacDonald	_____
Councillor McDonald	_____
Councillor McGillis	_____
Councillor St. Pierre	_____
Councillor Williams	_____
Warden Lang	_____



Town of The Blue Mountains

32 Mill Street, Box 310
THORNBURY, ON N0H 2P0
<https://www.thebluemountains.ca>

OFFICE OF: Mayor Andrea Matrosovs

Email: mayor@thebluemountains.ca
Phone: 519-599-3131 Ext 406

December 5, 2025

Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
College Park
5th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Email: minister.mecp@ontario.ca

RE: Town of The Blue Mountains Opposition to Bill 68 and the Proposed Consolidation of Ontario's Conservation Authorities

Honourable Minister McCarthy,

The Town of The Blue Mountains Council would like to express our concerns regarding Bill 68 and the proposed consolidation of Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities into seven regional authorities. As a community with a strong and long-standing partnership with our local conservation authorities, we believe the proposed regional restructuring does not align with the best interests of our residents or the unique environmental needs of our community.

As a Council, we support provincial efforts to enhance efficiency through standardized fee schedules, policies, guidelines and online permitting systems. However, we believe that these improvements can be achieved without compromising the local expertise, responsiveness and accountability that watershed-based authorities currently provide.

The proposed consolidation raises significant concerns for The Blue Mountains Council regarding the loss of local expertise and the reduction of accessible, timely support for residents, builders and developers. Local conservation authorities possess a deep knowledge of watershed conditions, natural hazards and community priorities that cannot be effectively replicated at a broader regional scale. Centralizing the functions of local conservation authorities risks diluting the community-driven programming and tailored services that protect natural resources and support sustainable development in The Blue Mountains, while also diminishing meaningful municipal representation in decision-making. We are further concerned that a top-down

structure may introduce unnecessary transition costs, red tape and additional layers of bureaucracy, which hinder efficiency, rather than improve it.

Given these concerns, we urge you to reconsider the implications of the proposed amalgamation and to directly engage with municipalities and conservation authorities before finalizing any consolidation boundaries or legislative amendments. We respectfully request that the province consider alternative approaches that maintain local, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities while supporting shared objectives of modernization and efficiency improvements. We believe that strengthening and supporting existing structures, rather than replacing them, will help to preserve local expertise, ensure consistent service delivery, and uphold the principles of community-focused governance.

Thank you for considering the perspective of the Town of The Blue Mountains. We look forward to your response and hopeful reconsideration of this proposal.

Warm regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matrosovs".

Mayor Andrea Matrosovs
Town of The Blue Mountains

The Corporation of the
TOWNSHIP OF DORION
DORION, ONTARIO
POT 1KO
TELEPHONE 807-857-2289
FAX 807-857-2203

Date: December 2, 2025

Resolution No. 25-290

Moved by Chair Shallow
Seconded by A. M. C.

WHEREAS the *Conservation Authorities Act* (1946) enables municipalities to establish local conservation authorities, and when municipalities choose to form such authorities, they assume responsibility for governance and funding through the appointment of a Board of Directors and the provision of an annual levy to cover expenses;

AND WHEREAS the municipalities within Lakehead Region established the Neebing Valley Conservation Authority in 1954 which enlarged to the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRCA) in 1963;

AND WHEREAS local municipalities currently provide approximately 50% of total conservation authority funding, while the Province of Ontario provides approximately 5%;

AND WHEREAS municipalities have governed their respective conservation authorities for decades, tailoring programs and services to local watershed needs, maintaining accountable service standards, and ensuring fair and predictable costs for ratepayers;

AND WHEREAS conservation authorities collectively own and manage thousands of hectares of land, much of which was donated by local residents and entrusted to conservation authorities as a personal legacy for long-term protection, stewardship, and the public good, with the expectation that such lands would be cared for by locally governed conservation authorities;

AND WHEREAS Bill 68 (Schedule 3) proposes the creation of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency, a Crown corporation that would assume governance responsibilities and consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into seven regional authorities, with municipal cost apportionment yet to be defined;

AND WHEREAS the Province already possesses the authority to establish overarching legislation, regulations, and standards through the *Conservation Authorities Act* and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Dorion calls on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities to ensure strong local representation in decisions related to municipal levies, community-focused service delivery, and the protection and management of conservation lands;

AND THAT while the Township of Dorion supports provincial goals for consistent permit approval processes, shared services, and digital modernization, imposing a new top-down agency structure without strong local accountability and governance risks creating unnecessary cost, red tape, and bureaucracy, thereby undermining efficiency and responsiveness to local community needs;

AND THAT the Township of Dorion supports efforts to balance expertise, capacity, and program delivery across the province, and requests that the Province work collaboratively with municipalities and local conservation authorities to determine the most effective level of strategic consolidation to achieve both provincial and local objectives;

AND that the Township of Dorion is opposed to the proposed “Huron-Superior Regional Conservation Authority” boundary configuration outlined in Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257;

AND THAT the Township of Dorion recommends that the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority form the “Northwestern Ontario Regional Conservation Authority”;

AND THAT the Ministry engage directly with affected municipalities of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority, before finalizing any consolidation boundaries or legislative amendments;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Environmental Registry of Ontario consultations and to:

- the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and his Opposition critics;
- local Members of Provincial Parliament;
- local Members of Parliament;
- the Association of Municipalities of Ontario;
- Conservation Ontario;
- All local municipalities; and
- All Conservation Authorities in Ontario.


Reeve Chair

Carried
Carried
Carried
(as amended)

Defeated

	YEAS	NAYS
REEVE		
R. Beatty		
COUNCILLOR		
D. Harris Shallow		
J. Mehagan		
D. Penner		
B. Cadeau		



Township of Blandford-Blenheim

47 Wilmot Street South
Drumbo, Ontario N0J 1G0

Phone: (519) 463-5347
Fax: (519) 463-5881
Website: www.blandfordblenheim.ca

December 18th, 2025

To: Hon. Doug Ford,
Hon. Todd J. McCarthy,
Hassaan Basit, Chief Conservation Executive,
Hon. Ernie Hardeman, MPP,
Conservation Authorities,
All Ontario Municipalities,
Conservation Ontario

Re: Upper Thames River Conservation Authority

Please be advised that at the Regular Meeting of Council held on Wednesday, December 17th 2025, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Blandford-Blenheim carried the following resolution:

Resolution No. 2025-12-17-11

Moved by – Councillor Banbury
Seconded by – Councillor Barnes

WHEREAS the Conservation Authorities Act (1946) enables municipalities to establish local conservation authorities, and when municipalities choose to form such authorities, they assume responsibility for governance and funding through the appointment of a Board of Directors and the provision of an annual levy to cover expenses;

AND WHEREAS the Township of Blandford-Blenheim established the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority with other consenting municipalities within the watershed (initially formed in 1947);

AND WHEREAS local municipalities currently provide approximately 35% of total conservation authority funding, while the Province of Ontario provides approximately 2% (2026 budget);

AND WHEREAS municipalities have governed their respective conservation authorities for decades, tailoring programs and services to local watershed needs, maintaining accountable service standards, and ensuring fair and predictable costs for ratepayers;

AND WHEREAS conservation authorities collectively own and manage thousands of acres of land. Many of these properties were entrusted to the UTRCA for long-term

protection, stewardship, and the public good, with the expectation that such lands would be cared for by locally governed conservation authorities;

AND WHEREAS Bill 68 (Schedule 3) proposes the creation of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency, a Crown corporation that would assume governance responsibilities and consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into seven regional authorities, with municipal cost apportionment yet to be defined;

AND WHEREAS the Province already possesses the authority to establish overarching legislation, regulations, and standards through the Conservation Authorities Act and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Blandford-Blenheim calls on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities to ensure strong local representation in decisions related to municipal levies, community-focused service delivery, and the protection and management of conservation lands;

AND FURTHER THAT while the Township of Blandford-Blenheim supports provincial goals for consistent permit approval processes, shared services, and digital modernization, imposing a new top-down agency structure without strong local accountability and governance risks creating unnecessary cost, red tape, and bureaucracy, thereby undermining efficiency and responsiveness to local community needs;

AND FURTHER THAT the Township of Blandford-Blenheim supports efforts to balance expertise, capacity, and program delivery across the province, and requests that the Province work collaboratively with municipalities and local conservation authorities to determine the most effective level of strategic consolidation to achieve both provincial and local objectives.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to:

- the Ontario Minister of Environment, Conservation, and Parks,
- local MPPs,
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario,
- Rural Ontario Municipal Association,
- area Indigenous communities,
- all municipalities,
- Conservation Authorities, and
- Conservation Ontario.

.Carried

If you have any questions regarding the resolution of Council, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Sarah Matheson

Sarah Matheson
Director of Corporate Services / Clerk
Township of Blandford-Blenheim
smatheson@blandfordblenheim.ca



Clarence-Rockland

**CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF
CLARENCE-ROCKLANDREGULAR MEETING**

RESOLUTION

Council Regular meeting

Resolution: 2025-105
Title: Resolution to urges the Government of Ontario to maintain local, municipally governed, watershed-based Conservation Authorities
Date: December 10, 2025

Moved by Mario Zanth
Seconded by Carl Grimard

WHEREAS the *Conservation Authorities Act* (1946) enables municipalities to establish Conservation Authorities and appoint locally elected representatives to their Boards, ensuring direct municipal oversight and accountability for programs funded by municipal taxpayers;

AND WHEREAS the municipalities within the South Nation River watershed established South Nation Conservation (SNC) in 1947 to protect people, property, farmland, water resources, and natural systems through a watershed-based model that reflects local geographic, hydrologic, and community needs;

AND WHEREAS municipalities within the SNC jurisdiction currently provide between 25% and 50% of total funding for conservation authority operations, while provincial funding has declined to approximately 3% in recent years;

AND WHEREAS SNC delivers essential services that support municipal responsibilities, including:

- natural hazard identification and permitting;
- watershed planning and development review;
- flood forecasting, emergency management, and low water response;
- drinking water source protection;
- watershed monitoring, reporting, and technical studies;
- sustainable forestry, agricultural stewardship, and restoration programs;
- management of over 13,000 acres of conservation lands, including lands donated by residents and managed through municipal service agreements;

AND WHEREAS on November 7, 2025, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks posted ERO #025-1257 proposing to consolidate Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities into seven regional conservation authorities and to establish a new Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency, with limited consultation and without accompanying cost-benefit analysis or evidence demonstrating the need for this restructuring;

AND WHEREAS Schedule 3 of Bill 68 enables the Province to assume governance authority over regional conservation authorities, raising concerns regarding diminished municipal representation, loss of local decision-making, and centralization of watershed management;

AND WHEREAS municipalities in Eastern Ontario have expressed concern, including the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, that restructuring may:

- increase red tape and administrative burden;
- impose significant transition costs for HR, IT, land transfers, and governance realignment;
- dilute rural voices within large regional agencies dominated by major urban centres;
- erode donor confidence and affect the stewardship of thousands of acres of locally donated lands;
- disrupt bilingual service delivery in designated municipalities governed by the *French Language Services Act*;

AND WHEREAS Conservation Authorities—including SNC—already collaborate regionally through successful shared-service models, joint watershed studies, coordinated flood forecasting, agricultural stewardship partnerships, digital permitting, and harmonized technical reviews, demonstrating that modernization and efficiency can be achieved without dismantling local governance structures;

AND WHEREAS municipalities rely on SNC's field-based expertise, rapid on-site support, landowner relationships, and local knowledge—services that risk being weakened under a large, centralized regional structure;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Clarence-Rockland urges the Government of Ontario to maintain local, municipally governed, watershed-based Conservation Authorities, including South Nation Conservation, to ensure effective natural resource and natural hazard management, transparent local services, and accountability for municipal levy dollars;

AND FURTHER THAT this Council does not support the proposed consolidation boundaries presented in ERO #025-1257 or the creation of a new provincial Conservation Agency without evidence-based analysis, transparent consultation, and clear articulation of impacts to municipal budgets, local service delivery, donor lands, and bilingual obligations;

AND FURTHER THAT this Council encourages the Province to work collaboratively with municipalities and Conservation Authorities to identify opportunities for improved consistency, modernization, and shared-service approaches within the existing watershed governance model;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to:

- the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;
- local MPPs and MPs;
- all municipalities within the South Nation Watershed;
- the Association of Municipalities of Ontario;
- the Rural Ontario Municipal Association;
- Conservation Ontario; and
- all Conservation Authorities in Ontario.

CARRIED

Karine McCulloch/Deputy Clerk



Clarence-Rockland

**CORPORATION DE LA CITÉ DE
CLARENCE-ROCKLAND
RÉUNION RÉGULIÈRE**

RÉSOLUTION

Réunion régulière du conseil

Résolution: 2025-105

Titre: Résolution pour inciter le gouvernement de l'Ontario à maintenir les offices de protection de la nature locaux, gérés par les municipalités et basés sur les bassins versants

Date: le 10 décembre 2025

Proposée par Mario Zanth

Appuyée par Carl Grimard

ATTENDU QUE la *Loi sur les offices de protection de la nature* (1946) permet aux municipalités de créer des offices de protection de la nature et de nommer des représentants élus localement à leur Conseil d'administration, garantissant ainsi une surveillance directe et une responsabilité municipale pour les programmes financés par les contribuables municipaux ;

ET ATTENDU QUE les municipalités du bassin versant de la rivière Nation Sud ont créé la Conservation de la Nation Sud (CNS) en 1947 afin de protéger les personnes, les biens, les terres agricoles, les ressources en eau et les systèmes naturels grâce à un modèle basé sur le bassin versant qui reflète les besoins géographiques, hydrologiques et communautaires locaux ;

ET ATTENDU QUE les municipalités relevant du territoire de la CNS fournissent actuellement entre 25 % et 50 % du financement total des activités de l'Office de protection de la nature, tandis que le financement provincial a diminué pour atteindre environ 3 % ces dernières années ;

ET ATTENDU QUE la CNS fournit des services essentiels qui soutiennent les responsabilités municipales, notamment :

- l'identification des risques naturels et la délivrance de permis ;
- la planification du bassin versant et l'examen des projets d'aménagement ;
- la prévision des inondations, la gestion des urgences et les interventions en cas de crue ;
- la protection des sources d'eau potable ;
- la surveillance des bassins versants, l'établissement de rapports et les études techniques ;

- les programmes de foresterie durable, de gestion agricole et de restauration ;
- la gestion de plus de 13 000 acres de terres de conservation, y compris les terres données par les résidents et gérées dans le cadre d'ententes de services municipaux ;

ET ATTENDU QUE le 7 novembre 2025, le ministère de l'Environnement, de la Protection de la nature et des Parcs a publié le document Registre environnemental #025-1257 proposant de regrouper les 36 offices de protection de la nature de l'Ontario en sept offices régionaux et de créer une nouvelle agence provinciale de protection de la nature de l'Ontario, après une consultation limitée et sans analyse coûts-avantages ni preuves démontrant la nécessité de cette restructuration ;

ET ATTENDU QUE l'annexe 3 du projet de loi 68 permet à la province d'assumer le pouvoir de gouvernance sur les offices régionaux de protection de la nature, ce qui soulève des inquiétudes quant à la diminution de la représentation municipale, à la perte du pouvoir décisionnel local et à la centralisation de la gestion des bassins versants ;

ET ATTENDU QUE les municipalités de l'Est de l'Ontario, notamment les comtés unis de Stormont, Dundas et Glengarry, ont exprimé leur inquiétude quant au fait que la restructuration pourrait :

- augmenter la bureaucratie et le fardeau administratif ;
- imposer des coûts de transition importants pour les ressources humaines, les technologies de l'information, les transferts fonciers et le réalignement de la gouvernance ;
- diluer la voix des zones rurales au sein des grandes agences régionales dominées par les grands centres urbains ;
- éroder la confiance des donateurs et affecter la gestion de milliers d'hectares de terres données localement ;
- perturber la prestation de services bilingues dans les municipalités désignées régies par la *Loi sur les services en langue française* ;

ET ATTENDU QUE les offices de protection de la nature, y compris la CNS, collaborent déjà à l'échelle régionale grâce à des modèles de services partagés efficaces, des études conjointes sur les bassins versants, la coordination des prévisions d'inondations, des partenariats en matière de gestion agricole, la délivrance de permis numériques et des examens techniques harmonisés, démontrant ainsi que la modernisation et l'efficacité peuvent être réalisées sans démanteler les structures de gouvernance locales ;

ET ATTENDU QUE les municipalités comptent sur l'expertise de terrain de la CNS, son soutien rapide sur place, ses relations avec les propriétaires fonciers et sa connaissance du terrain, autant de services qui risquent d'être affaiblis dans le cadre d'une grande structure régionale centralisée ;

IL EST DONC RÉSOLU QUE le Conseil municipal de la Cité de Clarence-Rockland incite le gouvernement de l'Ontario à maintenir les offices de protection de la nature locaux, gérés par les municipalités et basés sur les bassins versants, y compris la Conservation de la Nation Sud, afin de garantir une gestion efficace des ressources naturelles et des risques naturels, des services locaux transparents et la responsabilité des fonds municipaux prélevés ;

ET DE PLUS QUE le Conseil ne soutient pas les limites de consolidation proposées dans le document Registre environnemental #025-1257 ni la création d'une nouvelle agence provinciale de conservation sans analyse fondée sur des preuves, consultation transparente et articulation claire des répercussions sur les budgets municipaux, la prestation de services locaux, les terres données et les obligations bilingues ;

ET DE PLUS QUE ce Conseil encourage la province à collaborer avec les municipalités et les offices de protection de la nature afin d'identifier les possibilités d'améliorer la cohérence, la modernisation et les approches de services partagés dans le cadre du modèle actuel de gouvernance des bassins versants ;

ET EN OUTRE QUE une copie de cette résolution soit envoyée à :

- le ministre de l'Environnement, de la Protection de la nature et des Parcs ;
- les députés provinciaux et fédéraux locaux ;
- toutes les municipalités du bassin versant de la Nation Sud ;
- l'Association des municipalités de l'Ontario ;
- l'Association des municipalités rurales de l'Ontario ;
- Conservation Ontario ; et
- toutes les autorités de conservation de l'Ontario.

ADOPTÉE

Karine McCulloch/Greffière adjointe

November 19, 2025

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Attention: Hon. Todd McCarthy, Minister
College Park, 5th Floor,
777 Bay St.,
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2J3

Sent via email todd.mccarthy@ontario.ca

Re: Resolution of Essex County Council In Support of Member Municipalities Vis-à-vis Bill 68

The Council of the Corporation of the County of Essex held a meeting on Wednesday, November 19, 2025. At said meeting, Council raised the matter of the proposed changes to Conservation Authorities under Bill 68, and subsequently passed the following resolution:

343-2025

Moved By Sherry Bondy
Seconded By Gary McNamara

That Essex County Council direct Administration to send a letter to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), in support of the lower-tier municipalities with jurisdiction over the Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA), outlining the importance of local administrative resources, board representation and maintaining existing relationships with the local conservation authority following the Minister's review under current proposed legislation; and,

That said letter include copies of the letters received from the municipalities of Essex County; and,

That the letter be forwarded to the seven lower-tier municipalities of the County of Essex, the City of Windsor, the Township of Pelee, ERCA, local MPPs, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and the Western Ontario Warden's Caucus (WOWC).

Carried Unanimously

Resolution of Essex County Council In Support of Member Municipalities

Vis-à-vis Bill 68

November 19, 2025

As such, please find attached letters from the County of Essex Member municipalities, being the Town of Amherstburg, Town of Essex, Town of Kingsville, Municipality of Lakeshore, Town of LaSalle, Municipality of Leamington and the Town of Tecumseh.

The County is committed to fostering an open and productive relationship with the Province as you navigate and work through the process of modernizing legislation and programs. If you wish to discuss the Bill 68 proposed amendments with Essex County Warden, Hilda MacDonald, or if clarification regarding this correspondence is required, please contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Katherine J. Hebert
County Clerk

CC:

- Andrew Dowie, MPP Windsor-Tecumseh, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
andrew.dowie@pc.ola.org
- Anthony Leardi, MPP Essex, Deputy Government House Leader, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health anthony.leardi@pc.ola.org
- Hon. Trevor Jones, MPP Chatham-Kent-Leamington, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness trevor.jones@pc.ola.org
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario Robin Jones, President amopresident@amo.on.ca Brian Rosborough, Executive Director, brosborough@amo.on.ca
- Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus Kate Burns Gallagher, Executive Director kate@wowc.ca Amy Martin, Chair chair@wowc.ca
- Sandra Zwiers, Chief Administrative Officer, County of Essex szwiers@countyofessex.ca
- Clerks of the Town of Amherstburg, Town of Essex, Town of Kingsville, Municipality of Lakeshore, Town of LaSalle, Municipality of Leamington, Town of Tecumseh



519-776-6441 ext. 1353
TTY 1-877-624-4832



202 - 360 Fairview Ave. W.
Essex, ON N8M 1Y6
countyofessex.ca

**Resolution of Essex County Council In Support of Member Municipalities
Vis-à-vis Bill 68**
November 19, 2025

- Steve Vlachodimos, City Clerk & Licence Commissioner - City of Windsor
svlachodimos@citywindsor.ca
- Jude Malott, Deputy Treasurer/Clerk - Township of Pelee
jude.malott@pelee.ca
- Tim Byrne, Essex Region Conservation Authority tbyrne@erca.org



Town of Amherstburg

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Michael Prue, Mayor

December 10, 2025

Attn: The Honourable Todd J. McCarthy
Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
Essex Region Conservation Authority
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Re: Letter of Support for ERCA's Opposition to the Conservation Authority Consolidation

Dear Honourable Minister McCarthy,

On behalf of the Town of Amherstburg Council, I am writing to convey our support for the Essex Region Conservation Authority's (ERCA) position and to share our concerns regarding the Province's proposed consolidation of conservation authorities. We believe this initiative could have significant implications for local municipalities and the vital environmental services provided by conservation authorities.

Smaller municipalities typically lack the specialty staff resources to provide the expertise that local conservation authorities have provided for decades. With the proposed conservation authority consolidation, additional expenses will be incurred as part of many Planning Act applications to ensure compliance with applicable legislation. This means both the developer and the municipality will pay more to implement the proposed legislative change. The burden will particularly be felt by smaller and rural municipalities that have many natural features that require protection and also to ensure that development can safely occur for the future users of buildings in areas subject to natural hazards.

We are concerned that consolidation would eliminate the local expertise provided by ERCA. Their knowledge of the area's history, flooding patterns, and erosion issues is critical to informed decision-making. Our strong relationship with ERCA enables efficient communication and quick permit turnaround. Under consolidation, we anticipate longer wait times, reduced access to staff, and delays that could frustrate municipalities, builders, and residents. Increased uncertainty for developers may lead to disputes, further delaying permits beyond Ontario Building Code timelines.

Please be advised that Council of the Town of Amherstburg, at its meeting held on Monday, November 24, 2025, passed the following resolution:

Resolution: 20251124 – 010

Moved By: Councillor Allaire
Seconded By: Councillor Pouget



Town of Amherstburg

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Michael Prue, Mayor

That:

1. The Town of Amherstburg submit comments to the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) expressing its opposition to the Province's proposed conservation authority consolidation, supporting the rationale and concerns outlined in the Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA) resolution, and further expressing the Town's concern that such consolidation may result in additional financial and operational burdens being downloaded onto municipalities.
2. This correspondence be sent to all neighbouring municipalities and Essex County Council.

The Mayor put the Motion.

Motion Carried

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of Michael Prue.

Michael Prue, Mayor
Town of Amherstburg

Cc: City of Windsor
County of Essex
Municipality of Lakeshore
Municipality of Leamington
Town of Essex
Town of Kingsville
Town of LaSalle
Town of Tecumseh



BY EMAIL

December 19, 2025

Essex Region Conservation Authority
360 Fairview Avenue West
Essex, ON N8M 3G4
Email: admin@erca.org

Re: Opposition to Proposed Consolidation of Conservation Authorities

At its Regular Council Meeting held on December 1, 2025, Council supported a notice of motion on the Opposition to the Proposed Consolidation of Conservation Authorities.

R25-12-544

Moved By Councillor Matyi
Seconded By Mayor Bondy

Whereas the Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA) Board of Directors has adopted a formal resolution outlining significant concerns with the proposed "Lake Erie Region" boundary configuration, citing issues related to geographic coherence, local accountability, transition costs, service continuity, and the unique hydrological and environmental characteristics of the Essex Region; and

Whereas the Town of Essex places a high priority on effective watershed management, timely permitting, coordinated hazard mitigation, and the protection of local residents and property from flooding, sheet flooding, shoreline erosion, and other natural hazards; and

Whereas it is essential that municipalities understand the potential impacts of the proposed restructuring on frontline services, local permitting, environmental protection, and long-term watershed planning in our region.



Now Therefore, be it Resolved That Council direct Administration to prepare and send a letter to the Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA) expressing the Town of Essex's support for the ERCA Board's position regarding the proposed Conservation Authority consolidation as outlined in Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257 and that this resolution be circulated to ERCA member municipalities for their information; and

That Council direct the Town's Clerk to submit the Town's comments to the Province's consultation portal for Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257 by December 22, 2025.

Carried

We trust you will find this satisfactory. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "jul".

Joseph Malandruccolo
Director, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk
jmalandruccolo@essex.ca

Enclosure

cc:

Honourable Doug Ford
County of Essex
Municipality of Lakeshore
Municipality of Leamington
Town of Amherstburg
Town of Kingsville
Town of LaSalle
Town of Tecumseh



December 10, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
Via Email: premier@ontario.ca

Re: Opposition to Proposed Consolidation of Conservation Authorities

Council of the Town of LaSalle, at its Regular Meeting held Tuesday, December 9, 2025 passed the following resolution:

324/25

Moved by: Councillor Renaud
Seconded by: Councillor Seguin

"That the correspondence dated November 19, 2025, from the Town of Kingsville concerning its opposition to the proposed consolidation of Ontario's conservation authorities be supported;

And that a letter of support be forwarded to Premier Ford."

Carried.

Please consider this letter as confirmation of the Town of LaSalle's support of the above matter.

Yours Truly,

Jennifer Astrologo
Director of Council Services/Clerk
Town of LaSalle
jastrologo@lasalle.ca

Encl. Resolution of Town of Kingsville RE: Opposition to Proposed Consolidation of Conservation Authorities

cc: (via email) County of Essex
Essex Region Conservation Authority



2021 Division Road North
Kingsville, Ontario N9Y 2Y9
Phone: (519) 733-2305
www.kingsville.ca

November 19, 2025

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Via Email: premier@ontario.ca

Public Input Coordinator
Via Email: ca.office@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford,

Re: Opposition to Proposed Consolidation of Conservation Authorities

Please be advised that at its Regular Meeting held Monday, November 17, 2025, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kingsville passed the following resolution respecting the matter referenced in the above subject line:

195-11172025

Moved By: Councillor Neufeld
Seconded By: Councillor Patterson

Whereas the Conservation Authorities Act, 1990 (the "Act"), originally enacted in 1946, was established to allow municipalities to form conservation authorities that are equipped to develop and deliver local, watershed-based conservation, restoration and natural resource management programs on behalf of the province and municipalities;

And whereas there are thirty-six (36) conservation authorities in Ontario, each of which is distinct and reflects the unique environmental, geographic and community needs of its watershed;

And whereas on October 31, 2025, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks announced the Government's intention to introduce legislation which would amend the Act to create the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency and consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into seven (7) regional conservation authorities.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kingsville:

- Wishes to formally state that it opposes the consolidation of Ontario's conservation authorities without knowing the full financial and operational impact to municipalities and the conservation authorities; and,

- Directs the Acting Clerk to forward a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Todd McCarthy, the Honourable Rob Flack, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Anthony Leardi, MPP, Essex, Lisa Gretzky, MPP Windsor West, Andrew Dowie, MPP Windsor-Tecumseh, Trevor Jones, MPP Chatham-Kent-Leamington, AMCTO, AMO and all Ontario Municipalities.

Carried.

Please accept this correspondence as an official confirmation of Council's decision with respect to the same. Any questions may be directed to the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Angela Toole
Acting Manager of Municipal Governance/Clerk
519-733-2305 ext. 223
atoole@kingsville.ca

cc. Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Anthony Leardi, MPP, Essex
Lisa Gretzky, MPP, Windsor West
Andrew Dowie, MPP, Windsor-Tecumseh
Trevor Jones, MPP, Chatham-Kent-Leamington
Essex Region Conservation Authority
Conservation Ontario
AMCTO
AMO
All Ontario Municipalities



December 18, 2025

The Honourable Todd J. McCarthy
Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
Essex Region Conservation Authority
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

RE: Opposition to the Proposed Consolidation of Ontario's Conservation Authorities

Dear Minister McCarthy,

On behalf of the Municipality of Lakeshore, I am writing to provide formal municipal feedback and to express our opposition to the proposed regional consolidation of Ontario's conservation authorities.

The Municipality of Lakeshore is currently a member of both the Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA) and the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority (LTVCA). While these authorities provide similar categories of services, they operate within distinct watershed systems and geographic contexts. Their localized governance and technical expertise enable timely, informed decision-making that reflects the specific environmental, land-use, and development conditions within their respective jurisdictions.

The proposed consolidation into a "Lake Erie Regional Conservation Authority," encompassing more than 80 municipalities across a broad and diverse geographic area extending as far north as Dufferin County, raises significant concerns. The scale of this proposed authority is inconsistent with effective watershed-based management and risks diminishing local accountability, responsiveness, and service quality.

Lakeshore has not experienced administrative duplication or inefficiencies through its participation in both ERCA and LTVCA. To the contrary, the two authorities work collaboratively where appropriate while maintaining a clear focus on their individual watersheds. From our perspective, this model supports efficiency, strong municipal relationships, and effective service delivery. A single authority of this size would likely create service gaps, delay Planning Act responses, and challenge the ability to meet provincially mandated timelines and housing objectives.

The Municipality supports the Province's objective of ensuring consistent access to technical expertise and capacity across conservation authorities. However, we do not believe amalgamation is the appropriate mechanism to achieve this outcome.

Conservation authorities have demonstrated that shared services, inter-authority collaboration, and targeted provincial investment can address capacity challenges without compromising local governance or watershed-specific knowledge. Centralization also risks weakening the effectiveness of Source Protection Committees by distancing decision-making from the local conditions and stakeholder relationships that are essential to identifying risks and developing practical, locally informed policies.

The proposed implementation timeline further heightens these concerns. Introducing significant structural changes during a municipal election year, with no overlap for newly appointed council members, risks the loss of institutional knowledge and disruption to service continuity—particularly for smaller municipalities that rely heavily on conservation authority expertise.

In light of ongoing regulatory and policy changes affecting land use planning, environmental protection, and housing delivery, it is increasingly important that municipalities retain access to locally governed conservation authorities with deep, watershed-specific expertise. The Municipality of Lakeshore respectfully urges the Province to reconsider the proposed consolidation and to work collaboratively with municipalities and conservation authorities to pursue alternative approaches that strengthen capacity and consistency while preserving effective local governance and watershed-based management.

Thank you for your consideration of the Municipality of Lakeshore's position. We would welcome the opportunity to continue this dialogue and to work constructively with the Province toward solutions that support both environmental protection and responsible growth.

Sincerely,

Mayor Tracey Bailey
Municipality of Lakeshore



Hilda MacDonald
Mayor

Municipality of Leamington

 519-326-5761

 mayor@leamington.ca

 MayorHildaMacDonald

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

December 2, 2025

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
5th Floor, 777 bay Street
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2J3

Attn: The Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment,
Conservation and Parks

Dear Sir:

**Re: Opposition to Proposed Boundaries for the Regional
Consolidation of Ontario's Conservation Authorities**

Please be advised that at is meeting held on November 28, 2025,
Leamington Council passed the following resolution respecting the matter
referenced in the above subject line:

No. C-267-25

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Verbeke
Seconded by: Councillor Latam

**That Council direct the Mayor to send a letter to the Ministry of the
Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding opposition to the
proposed boundaries for the regional consolidation of Ontario's
Conservation authorities.**

Carried

Please accept this correspondence as an official confirmation of Council's
decision with respecting to same.

Sincerely

Hilda MacDonald, Mayor



The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

December 1, 2025

Honorable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

By Email: premier@ontario.ca

Public Input Coordinator

By Email: ca.office@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford,

Re: Opposition to Proposed Consolidation of Conservation Authorities

The Council of the Town of Tecumseh, at its regular meeting held Tuesday, November 25, 2025, gave consideration to a resolution passed by the Town of Kingsville, dated November 19, 2025, on the Opposition to the Proposed Consolidation of Conservation Authorities. The Town of Kingsville has requested support regarding their said resolution, a copy of the resolution is enclosed.

At their meeting, Tecumseh Council passed the following resolution:

“Motion: RCM - 284/25

Moved by Deputy Mayor Joe Bachetti
Seconded by Councillor Alicia Higgison

Whereas the *Conservation Authorities Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.C.27* (the “Act”), originally enacted in 1946, was established to allow municipalities to form conservation authorities that are equipped to develop and deliver local, watershed-based conservation, restoration and natural resource management programs on behalf of the province and municipalities;

And whereas there are thirty-six (36) conservation authorities in Ontario, each of which is distinct and reflects the unique environmental, geographic and community needs of its watershed;

And whereas on October 31, 2025, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks announced the Government’s intention to introduce legislation which would amend the Act to create the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency and consolidate Ontario’s 36 conservation authorities into seven (7) regional conservation authorities.

Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved:

That the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh wishes to formally state that it opposes the consolidation of Ontario's conservation authorities without knowing the full financial and operational impact to municipalities and the conservation authorities;

And that Council directs the Clerk to forward a copy of this resolution to the Honorable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honorable Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Todd McCarthy; the Honorable Rob Flack, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing; Anthony Leardi, MPP; Essex, Lisa Gretzky, MPP Windsor West; Andrew Dowie, MPP Windsor-Tecumseh; Trevor Jones, MPP Chatham-Kent-Leamington; Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario, Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario Municipalities.

Carried."

Please consider this letter as an official confirmation of the Town of Tecumseh's support of the resolution. Any questions may be directed to the undersigned.

Yours very truly,



Robert Auger, LLB
Director Legislative Services & Clerk

RA/gj
Attachment

1. Town of Kingsville Resolution dated November 19, 2025
- cc. Honorable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Honorable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Anthony Leardi, MPP, Essex
Lisa Gretzky, MPP, Windsor West
Andrew Dowie, MPP, Windsor-Tecumseh
Trevor Jones, MPP, Chatham-Kent-Leamington
Essex Region Conservation Authority
Conservation Ontario
Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities



The Municipality of West Elgin

22413 Hoskins Line, Rodney, Ontario N0L 2C0

www.westelgin.net

December 22, 2025

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Ontario Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
5th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Via Email: todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org

Re: Proposed Boundaries for the Regional Consolidation of Ontario's Conservation Authorities

At its Regular Meeting on December 18, 2025, West Elgin Council adopted the following motion regarding proposed boundaries for the regional consolidation of Ontario's Conservation Authorities:

Resolution Number 2025-327

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report Proposed Boundaries for the Regional Consolidation of Ontario's Conservation Authorities from Robin Greenall, CAO, And

That West Elgin Council resolves that the Municipal of West Elgin calls on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities to ensure strong local representation in decisions related to municipal levies, community-focused service delivery, and the protection and management of conservation lands; AND

FURTHER THAT while the Municipality of West Elgin supports provincial goals for consistent permit approval processes, shared services, digital modernization, and imposing a new top-down agency structure without strong local accountability and governance risks creating unnecessary cost, red tape, and bureaucracy, thereby undermining efficiency and responsiveness to local community needs; AND

FURTHER THAT the Municipality of West Elgin supports efforts to balance expertise, capacity, and program delivery across the province, and requests that the Province work collaboratively with municipalities and local conservation authorities to determine the most effective level of strategic consolidation to achieve both provincial and local objectives, AND

FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Ontario Minister of Environment, Conservation, and Parks, to the local MP and MPPs, the Association of Municipalities of

Ontario, the Rural Ontario Municipal Association, and municipalities and Conservation Authorities in Ontario.

Carried.

Sincerely,



Terri Towstiuc
Manager of Community Services/Clerk

Cc: Andrew Lawton, MP, Elgin-St. Thomas-London South
Hon. Rob Flack, MPP, Elgin-Middlesex-London
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Rural Ontario Municipal Association
All Municipalities of Ontario
All Conservation Authorities of Ontario

December 16, 2025

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Via Email todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org

Re: Amalgamation of Conservation Authorities - Bill 68

Please be advised the Council of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, at its regular meeting held on December 15, 2025, supported the following resolution regarding the above noted matter.

WHEREAS the Conservation Authorities Act (1946) enables municipalities to establish local conservation authorities, and when municipalities choose to form such authorities, they assume responsibility for governance and funding through the appointment of a Board of Directors and the provision of an annual levy to cover expenses;

AND WHEREAS the Municipality of Chatham-Kent (through its original municipalities) established the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority and St Clair Region Conservation Authority (both initially formed in 1961);

AND WHEREAS local municipalities currently provide over 50% of total conservation authority funding, while the Province of Ontario provides approximately 5%;

AND WHEREAS municipalities have governed their respective conservation authorities for decades, tailoring programs and services to local watershed needs, maintaining accountable service standards, and ensuring fair and predictable costs for ratepayers;

AND WHEREAS conservation authorities collectively own and manage thousands of acres of land, much of which was donated by local residents and entrusted to conservation authorities as a personal legacy for long-term protection, stewardship, and the public good, with the expectation that such lands would be cared for by locally governed conservation authorities;

AND WHEREAS Bill 68 (Schedule 3) proposes the creation of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency, a Crown corporation that would assume governance responsibilities and consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into seven regional authorities, with municipal cost apportionment yet to be defined;

AND WHEREAS the Province already possesses the authority to establish overarching legislation, regulations, and standards through the Conservation Authorities Act and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent calls on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities to ensure strong local representation in decisions related to municipal levies, community-focused service delivery, and the protection and management of conservation lands;

AND FURTHER THAT while the Municipality of Chatham-Kent supports provincial goals for consistent permit approval processes, shared services, and digital modernization, imposing a new top-down agency structure without strong local accountability and governance risks creating unnecessary cost, red tape, and bureaucracy, thereby undermining efficiency and responsiveness to local community needs;

AND FURTHER THAT the Municipality of Chatham-Kent supports efforts to balance expertise, capacity, and program delivery across the province, and requests that the Province work collaboratively with municipalities and local conservation authorities to determine the most effective level of strategic consolidation to achieve both provincial and local objectives.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Ontario Minister of Environment, Conservation, and Parks, to the local MP and MPPs, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Rural Ontario Municipal Association, and all municipalities and Conservation Authorities in Ontario.

Sincerely,

Judy Shantz, CMO
Director Municipal Governance/Clerk

C
Local MP and MPPs
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Rural Ontario Municipal Association
Ontario Municipalities
Conservation Authorities in Ontario

December 18, 2025

Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
College Park
5th Floor.
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Email: minister.mecp@ontario.ca

Honourable Minister McCarthy,

Re: Municipality of Meaford Response to Proposed Consolidation of Ontario's Conservation Authorities

Please be advised that the Council of the Municipality of Meaford adopted the following resolution at its meeting on December 15, 2025.

Moved by: Councillor Uhrig
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Keaveney

Whereas the Conservation Authorities Act enables municipalities to establish local conservation authorities, and when municipalities choose to form such authorities, they assume responsibility for governance and funding through the appointment of a Board of Directors and the provision of an annual levy to cover expenses; and

Whereas the municipalities within Grey and Bruce Counties established the North Grey Region Conservation Authority in 1957 and the Sauble Valley Conservation Authority in 1958 which amalgamated into the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority (GSCA) in 1985; and

Whereas local municipalities currently provide approximately 44% of total GSCA funding, while the Province of Ontario provides approximately 7%; and

Whereas municipalities have governed their respective conservation authorities for decades, tailoring programs and services to local

watershed needs, maintaining accountable service standards, and ensuring fair and predictable costs for ratepayers; and

Whereas conservation authorities collectively own and manage thousands of hectares of land, much of which was donated or sold by local residents and entrusted to conservation authorities as a personal legacy for long-term protection, stewardship, and the public good, with the expectation that such lands would be cared for by locally governed conservation authorities; and

Whereas Bill 68 (Schedule 3) proposes the creation of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency whose objects include overseeing conservation authorities and the transition to a regional watershed-based framework for conservation authorities in Ontario with municipal cost contribution yet to be defined; and

Whereas the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has posted Environmental Registry Notice No. 025-1257 ("Proposed Boundaries for the Regional Consolidation of Ontario's Conservation Authorities"), proposing to reduce Ontario's 36 conservation authorities to 7 regional entities as part of a broader restructuring; and

Whereas under this proposal, the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority (GSCA) would be consolidated into a new "Huron-Superior Regional Conservation Authority" that is over 23,000 square kilometres in size and consists of 80 municipalities; and

Whereas the Province already has the authority to establish overarching legislation, regulations and standards through the Conservation Authorities Act and the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks to address issues related to permitting, by establishing guidance, online permitting platforms and technical standards through legislation that could help build homes; and

Whereas the GSCA has already undertaken significant modernization work aligned with provincial objectives, including Information Technology / Information Management, and leveraging technology to streamline

planning and permit review processes processing 100% of major permits within the provincial timelines in 2024;

Therefore be it resolved that the Municipality of Meaford calls on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities to ensure strong local representation in decisions related to municipal levies, community-focused service delivery, and the protection and management of conservation lands; and

Be it further resolved that the Municipality of Meaford does not support the proposed "Huron-Superior Regional Conservation Authority" boundary configuration outlined in Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257 as the proposal lacks sufficient justification, would significantly diminish local governance, and fails to recognize the effectiveness and efficiencies already achieved within existing watershed-based models; and

Be it further resolved that the Municipality of Meaford affirms that large-scale regional consolidation is unnecessary, would introduce substantial transition costs, and would divert resources away from frontline watershed programs. The Council further asserts that restructuring at this scale would erode local decision-making, weaken municipal accountability, and disrupt long-standing community partnerships that are central to delivering responsive watershed management; and

Be it further resolved that while the Municipality of Meaford supports provincial goals for consistent permit approval processes, shared services, and digital modernization, imposing a new top-down approach structure without strong local accountability and governance risks creating unnecessary cost, red-tape, and bureaucracy, thereby undermining efficiency and responsiveness to local community needs; and

Be it further resolved that the Municipality of Meaford urges the Province to strengthen centralized standards, resources, and tools rather than undertaking broad structural amalgamation and to provide sustainable, predictable provincial funding across conservation authorities to enable local CAs to advance ongoing digitization and systemization work that has



already resulted in improved efficiency and consistency in recent years; and

Be it further resolved that the Municipality of Meaford believes that the Province's proposed new online permitting portal can be implemented within the existing conservation authority framework without requiring structural amalgamation; and

Be it further resolved that the Municipality of Meaford requests that the Ministry engage meaningfully and collaboratively with affected municipalities, conservation authorities, and local Indigenous communities before advancing any consolidation, to ensure that any changes reflect both local needs and the practical realities of implementation; and

Be it further resolved that this resolution be included in the Municipality's ERO response and forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, all of Ontario's municipalities, MPPs, conservation authorities, AMO, and Conservation Ontario.

Carried - Resolution #2025-46-09

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Penner".

Allison Penner

Deputy Clerk / Manager, Legislative Services
Municipality of Meaford
21 Trowbridge Street West, Meaford
519-538-1060, ext. 1110 | apenner@meaford.ca



cc: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities
All Ontario Members of Provincial Parliament
All Ontario Conservation Authorities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Conservation Ontario
Submission to Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257

Resolution
Regular Council Meeting



Agenda Number: 11.1.
Resolution Number RES-CM-227-2025
Title: Request for support from South Nation Conservation regarding the amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act and ERO Posting #025-1257
Date: December 8, 2025

Moved by: Marjorie Drolet
Seconded by: Alain Mainville

WHEREAS the Conservation Authorities Act (1946) enables municipalities to establish Conservation Authorities and appoint locally elected representatives to their Boards, ensuring direct municipal oversight and accountability for programs funded by municipal taxpayers;

AND WHEREAS the municipalities within the South Nation River watershed established South Nation Conservation (SNC) in 1947 to protect people, property, farmland, water resources, and natural systems through a watershed-based model that reflects local geographic, hydrologic, and community needs;

AND WHEREAS municipalities within the SNC jurisdiction currently provide between 25% and 50% of total funding for conservation authority operations, while provincial funding has declined to approximately 3% in recent years;

AND WHEREAS SNC delivers essential services that support municipal responsibilities, including:

- natural hazard identification and permitting;
- watershed planning and development review;
- flood forecasting, emergency management, and low water response;
- drinking water source protection;
- watershed monitoring, reporting, and technical studies;
- sustainable forestry, agricultural stewardship, and restoration programs;
- management of over 13,000 acres of conservation lands, including lands donated by residents and managed through municipal service agreements;

AND WHEREAS on November 7, 2025, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks posted ERO #025-1257 proposing to consolidate Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities into seven regional conservation authorities and to establish a new Ontario

Provincial Conservation Agency, with limited consultation and without accompanying cost-benefit analysis or evidence demonstrating the need for this restructuring; AND WHEREAS Schedule 3 of Bill 68 enables the Province to assume governance authority over regional conservation authorities, raising concerns regarding diminished municipal representation, loss of local decision-making, and centralization of watershed management;

AND WHEREAS municipalities in Eastern Ontario have expressed concern, including the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, that restructuring may:

- increase red tape and administrative burden;
- impose significant transition costs for HR, IT, land transfers, and governance realignment;
- dilute rural voices within large regional agencies dominated by major urban centres;
- erode donor confidence and affect the stewardship of thousands of acres of locally donated lands;
- disrupt bilingual service delivery in designated municipalities governed by the French Language Services Act;

AND WHEREAS Conservation Authorities—including SNC—already collaborate regionally through successful shared-service models, joint watershed studies, coordinated flood forecasting, agricultural stewardship partnerships, digital permitting, and harmonized technical reviews, demonstrating that modernization and efficiency can be achieved without dismantling local governance structures;

AND WHEREAS municipalities rely on SNC's field-based expertise, rapid on-site support, landowner relationships, and local knowledge—services that risk being weakened under a large, centralized regional structure;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Nation Municipality urges the Government of Ontario to maintain local, municipally governed, watershed-based Conservation Authorities, including South Nation Conservation, to ensure effective natural resource and natural hazard management, transparent local services, and accountability for municipal levy dollars;

AND FURTHER THAT this Council does not support the proposed consolidation boundaries presented in ERO #025-1257 or the creation of a new provincial Conservation Agency without evidence-based analysis, transparent consultation, and clear articulation of impacts to municipal budgets, local service delivery, donor lands, and bilingual obligations;

AND FURTHER THAT this Council encourages the Province to work collaboratively with municipalities and Conservation Authorities to identify opportunities for improved consistency, modernization, and shared-service approaches within the existing watershed governance model;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to:

- the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;

- local MPPs and MPs;
- all municipalities within the South Nation Watershed;
- the Association of Municipalities of Ontario;
- the Rural Ontario Municipal Association;
- Conservation Ontario; and
- all Conservation Authorities in Ontario.

Carried

Agenda Number: 6.2.
Resolution Number: 2025-264
Title: South Nation Conservation -Response to Bill 68 – Conservation Authority Changes
Date: Tuesday, December 16, 2025

Moved by: Antoni Viau
Seconded by: Jean-Pierre Cadieux

Response to Bill 68 – Conservation Authority Changes

WHEREAS the *Conservation Authorities Act* (R.S.O. 1990, c. C.27) enables municipalities to establish conservation authorities, and when municipalities choose to form such authorities, they assume responsibility for governance and funding through the appointment of Board Members and the provision of annual municipal levies to support mandatory and non-mandatory programs and services;

AND WHEREAS the municipalities within the South Nation River watershed established South Nation Conservation (SNC) in 1947 to protect people, property, farmland, water resources, and natural systems through a watershed-based model that reflects local geographic, hydrologic, and community needs;

AND WHEREAS municipal governments currently provide between 25% and 50% of total conservation authority funding, while the Province of Ontario provides approximately 3%;

AND WHEREAS municipalities have, for decades, governed their respective conservation authorities to ensure that programs, services, fee structures, permitting processes, and public service delivery remain aligned with local watershed needs and accountable to ratepayers;

AND WHEREAS conservation authorities collectively own and manage significant public lands across Ontario, including lands donated by local residents with the expectation that they would be protected, stewarded, and governed locally for the long-term public good;

AND WHEREAS Bill 68 proposes the creation of a new Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency—a Crown corporation that would assume governance responsibilities and consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into seven regional authorities, with municipal cost apportionment and governance structures yet to be defined;

AND WHEREAS the Province already holds the authority to set provincial standards, regulations, and expectations for conservation authority operations under the *Conservation Authorities Act* and through the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Alfred and Plantagenet calls on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities, ensuring strong municipal representation in decisions related to levies, service delivery, land management, and community-focused program outcomes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT while the Township of Alfred and Plantagenet supports provincial objectives related to consistent permitting standards, shared services, and digital modernization, the imposition of a top-down centralized agency risks increasing cost, red tape, and administrative complexity while reducing accountability and responsiveness to local watershed needs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Township of Alfred and Plantagenet supports balanced approaches to improving capacity, efficiency, and technical expertise across conservation authorities and request that the Province work collaboratively with municipalities and existing conservation authorities to evaluate where strategic consolidation—if any—is appropriate, effective, and financially sustainable.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Ontario Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; local MPs and MPPs; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Rural Ontario Municipal Association; and all municipalities and conservation authorities in Ontario.



Julie Prud'homme, Clerk

Carried

No. du point à l'ordre du jour: 6.2.
No. de la résolution 2025-264
Titre: Conservation de la Nation Sud -Réponse au projet de loi 68 – Modifications aux offices de protection de la nature
Date: le mardi 16 décembre 2025

Proposée par: Antoni Viau
Appuyée par: Jean-Pierre Cadieux

Réponse au projet de loi 68 – Modifications aux offices de protection de la nature

ATTENDU QUE la *Loi sur les offices de protection de la nature* (L.R.O. 1990, chap. C.27) permet aux municipalités d'établir des offices de protection de la nature et que, lorsque les municipalités choisissent de créer de tels offices, elles assument la responsabilité de leur gouvernance et de leur financement par la nomination de membres au conseil d'administration et par la fourniture de contributions municipales annuelles afin de soutenir les programmes et les services obligatoires et non obligatoires;

ET ATTENDU QUE les municipalités du bassin versant de la rivière Nation Sud ont créé la Conservation de la Nation Sud (CNS) en 1947 afin de protéger les personnes, les biens, les terres agricoles, les ressources en eau et les systèmes naturels grâce à un modèle basé sur le bassin versant qui reflète les besoins géographiques, hydrologiques et communautaires locaux ;

ET ATTENDU QUE les gouvernements municipaux fournissent actuellement entre 25 % et 50 % du financement total des offices de protection de la nature, tandis que la province de l'Ontario en fournit environ 3 %;

ET ATTENDU QUE les municipalités, depuis des décennies, gouvernent leurs offices de protection de la nature respectifs afin de s'assurer que les programmes, les services, les structures tarifaires, les processus d'autorisation et les services au public demeurent alignés avec les besoins locaux des bassins versants et imputables aux contribuables;

ET ATTENDU QUE les offices de protection de la nature possèdent et gèrent collectivement d'importantes terres publiques à travers l'Ontario, y compris des terrains donnés par des résidents locaux avec l'attente qu'ils seraient protégés, gérés et gouvernés localement pour le bien public à long terme;

ET ATTENDU QUE le projet de loi 68 propose la création d'une nouvelle Agence ontarienne de protection de la nature — une société de la Couronne qui assumerait les responsabilités de gouvernance et regrouperait les 36 offices de protection de la nature de l'Ontario en sept offices régionaux, sans que la répartition des coûts municipaux et les structures de gouvernance ne soient encore définies;

ET ATTENDU QUE la province détient déjà le pouvoir d'établir des normes, des règlements et des attentes provinciales pour les opérations des offices de protection de la nature en vertu de la *Loi sur les offices de protection de la nature* et par l'entremise du ministère de l'Environnement, de la Protection de la nature et des Parcs;

QU'IL SOIT RÉSOLU QUE le Conseil du Canton d'Alfred et Plantagenet demande au gouvernement de l'Ontario de maintenir des offices de protection de la nature locaux, indépendants, régis par les municipalités et fondés sur les bassins versants, assurant une forte représentation municipale dans les décisions liées aux

contributions, à la prestation de services, à la gestion des terres et aux résultats des programmes axés sur la communauté.

QU'IL SOIT ÉGALEMENT RÉSOLU QUE, bien que le Canton d'Alfred et Plantagenet appuie les objectifs provinciaux liés à l'harmonisation des normes d'autorisation, aux services partagés et à la modernisation numérique, l'imposition d'une agence centralisée, de haut en bas, risque d'augmenter les coûts, la bureaucratie et la complexité administrative, tout en réduisant la transparence et la capacité de répondre aux besoins locaux des bassins versants.

QU'IL SOIT ÉGALEMENT RÉSOLU QUE le Canton d'Alfred et Plantagenet appuie des approches équilibrées visant à améliorer la capacité, l'efficacité et l'expertise technique des offices de protection de la nature et demandent à la province de travailler en collaboration avec les municipalités et avec les offices de protection de la nature existants pour évaluer où une consolidation stratégique — le cas échéant — serait appropriée, efficace et financièrement viable.

QU'IL SOIT ENFIN RÉSOLU qu'une copie de cette résolution soit envoyée au ministre ontarien de l'Environnement, de la Protection de la nature et des Parcs; aux députés fédéraux et provinciaux locaux; à l'Association des municipalités de l'Ontario; à l'Association des municipalités rurales de l'Ontario; ainsi qu'à toutes les municipalités et à tous les offices de protection de la nature de l'Ontario.



Julie Prud'homme, Greffière

Adoptée



374028 6TH LINE • AMARANTH ON • L9W 0M6

December 19, 2025

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Hassaan Basit
Chief Conservation Officer

Sent by email to: todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org, Hassaan.Basit@ontario.ca

Re: Amalgamation of Conservation Authorities – Bill 68

At its special meeting of Council held on December 19, 2025, the Township of Amaranth Council discussed the proposed amalgamation of the Conservation Authorities and passed the following motion.

Background

Located in the aptly named Headwaters Region of Southern Ontario, the Township of Amaranth in the County of Dufferin is currently very under the jurisdiction of three Conservation Authorities: Grand River, Nottawasaga Valley and Credit Valley. The Township of Amaranth has been under the jurisdiction of these three Conservation Authorities since they were established. Amaranth is currently well served by all three Conservation Authorities.

Under the proposal put forward by the provincial government as part of Bill 68 referenced above, the Township of Amaranth would remain split between three much larger Regional Conservation Authorities: Lake Erie, Huron-Superior and Central Lake. This proposal severely dilutes local accountability, potentially eliminating the voice of this municipality and the taxpayers who support the work of the Conservation Authorities with levies paid as part of property taxes. Meanwhile the provincial contribution to CAs continues at a level that funds less than 3% of the Conservation Authorities' respective budgets.

The Township of Amaranth values the significant watershed specific infrastructure investment as contributed by its three unique Authorities and the science-based knowledge that guides the decision making in each of the specific geographical areas of each Authority.

Conservation Authorities have been working hard to streamline permitting processes, improve delivery timelines and focus on fiscal prudence and consistency within their mandated roles. Through shared services, the improvement to modernization and

system evolution can continue with less system-wide disruption and without additional transition expense.

Resolution #: 2

Moved by: G. Little

Seconded by: V. Paan

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Council of the Township of Amaranth opposes the amalgamation process as defined in Bill 68.

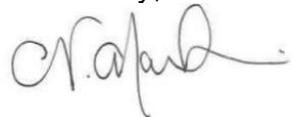
Further, the Township of Amaranth proposes a three-year hiatus of any transition changes while evaluation is completed with proper, appropriate consultation of all partners in Conservation Authorities to review any proposed boundary realignments, additional governance oversight, potential service adjustments and other Conservation Authority model proposals.

For (5): C. Gerrits, G. Little, S. Graham, B. Metzger, and V. Paan

CARRIED (5 to 0)

Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you require any further information on this matter.

Yours truly,



Nicole Martin, Dipl. M.A.
CAO/Clerk

Cc: Dufferin MP and MPP
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Rural Ontario Municipal Association
Ontario Municipalities
Conservation Authorities in Ontario
Ministry of Natural Resources



Georgian Bluffs

Township of Georgian Bluffs

177964 Grey Road 18,

Owen Sound, ON N4K 5N5

December 19, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford, MPP
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
Via Email : premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier:

Re: Opposition to Bill 68 (Schedule 3) and Proposed Conservation Authority Amalgamation

Please be advised that at its December 3, 2025, meeting, the Township of Georgian Bluffs Council passed the following resolution:

RES2025-138

Moved By: Councillor Rick Winters
Seconded By: Councillor Tobin Day

WHEREAS the Conservation Authorities Act enables municipalities to establish local conservation authorities, and when municipalities choose to form such authorities, they assume responsibility for governance and funding through the appointment of a Board of Directors and the provision of an annual levy to cover expenses; and

WHEREAS the municipalities within Grey and Bruce Counties established the North Grey Region Conservation Authority in 1957 and the Sauble Valley Conservation Authority in 1958 which amalgamated into the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority (GSCA) in 1985; and

WHEREAS local municipalities currently provide approximately 44% of total GSCA funding, while the Province of Ontario provides approximately 7%; and

WHEREAS municipalities have governed their respective conservation authorities for decades, tailoring programs and services to local watershed needs,



Georgian Bluffs

maintaining accountable service standards, and ensuring fair and predictable costs for ratepayers; and

WHEREAS conservation authorities collectively own and manage thousands of hectares of land, much of which was donated or sold by local residents and entrusted to conservation authorities as a personal legacy for long-term protection, stewardship, and the public good, with the expectation that such lands would be cared for by locally governed conservation authorities; and

WHEREAS Bill 68 (Schedule 3) proposes the creation of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency whose objects include overseeing conservation authorities and the transition to a regional watershed-based framework for conservation authorities in Ontario with municipal cost contribution yet to be defined; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has posted Environmental Registry Notice No. 025-1257 (“Proposed Boundaries for the Regional Consolidation of Ontario’s Conservation Authorities”), proposing to reduce Ontario’s 36 conservation authorities to 7 regional entities as part of a broader restructuring; and

WHEREAS under this proposal, the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority (GSCA) would be consolidated into a new “Huron-Superior Regional Conservation Authority” that is over 23,000 square kilometres in size and consists of 80 municipalities; and

WHEREAS the Province already has the authority to establish overarching legislation, regulations and standards through the Conservation Authorities Act and the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks to address issues related to permitting, by establishing guidance, online permitting platforms and technical standards through legislation that could help build homes; and

WHEREAS the GSCA has already undertaken significant modernization work aligned with provincial objectives, including Information Technology / Information Management, and leveraging technology to streamline planning and permit review processes processing 100% of major permits within the provincial timelines in 2024.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:



Georgian Bluffs

THAT the Township of Georgian Bluffs calls on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities to ensure strong local representation in decisions related to municipal levies, community-focused service delivery, and the protection and management of conservation lands; and

THAT the Township of Georgian Bluffs does not support the proposed “Huron-Superior Regional Conservation Authority” boundary configuration outlined in Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257 as the proposal lacks sufficient justification, would significantly diminish local governance, and fails to recognize the effectiveness and efficiencies already achieved within existing watershed-based models; and

THAT the Township of Georgian Bluffs affirms that large-scale regional consolidation is unnecessary, would introduce substantial transition costs, and would divert resources away from frontline watershed programs. The Council further asserts that restructuring at this scale would erode local decision-making, weaken municipal accountability, and disrupt long-standing community partnerships that are central to delivering responsive watershed management; and

THAT while the Township of Georgian Bluffs supports provincial goals for consistent permit approval processes, shared services, and digital modernization, imposing a new top-down approach structure without strong local accountability and governance risks creating unnecessary cost, red-tape, and bureaucracy, thereby undermining efficiency and responsiveness to local community needs; and

THAT the Township of Georgian Bluffs urges the Province to strengthen centralized standards, resources, and tools rather than undertaking broad structural amalgamation and to provide sustainable, predictable provincial funding across conservation authorities to enable local CAs to advance ongoing digitization and systemization work that has already resulted in improved efficiency and consistency in recent years; and



Georgian Bluffs

THAT the Township of Georgian Bluffs believes that the Province's proposed new online permitting portal can be implemented within the existing conservation authority framework without requiring structural amalgamation; and

THAT the Township of Georgian Bluffs requests that the Ministry engage meaningfully and collaboratively with affected municipalities, conservation authorities, and local First Nations before advancing any consolidation, to ensure that any changes reflect both local needs and the practical realities of implementation; and

THAT this resolution be included in the Municipality's ERO response and forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, all of Ontario's municipalities, MPPs, conservation authorities, AMO, and Conservation Ontario.

Carried

Regards,

Jodi Ward

Jodi Ward
Council and Committee Coordinator
jward@georgianbluffs.ca | 519-376-2729 ext. 601

Encl.: Grey Sauble Conservation Authority - Consolidation of Ontario's Conservation Authorities; & Bill 68 and Proposed Changes to the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario's Conservation Authorities

CC: The Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
All Ontario Municipalities
Local MP & MPP
All Conservation Authorities in Ontario
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Conservation Ontario



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759
Exeter Ontario
N0M 1S6
Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304
Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747
www.southhuron.ca

December 18, 2025

Via email: todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org

Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
5th Floor
777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Hon. Todd McCarthy,

Re: Response to Bill 68- Proposed New Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their December 15, 2025, Regular Council Meeting:

516-2025
Moved By: Ted Oke
Seconded by: Aaron Neeb

That South Huron Council endorses the Upper Thames Conservation Authority's draft Municipal Resolution regarding response to Bill 68 - Proposed Boundaries for the Regional Consolidation of Ontario's Conservation Authorities; and

That the draft resolution be updated to name the Municipality of South Huron, and circulated to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, MPP Thompson, AMO, ROMA, area indigenous communities, all municipalities in Ontario, Conservation Ontario and all Conservation Authorities in Ontario as follows:

Whereas the Conservation Authorities Act (1946) enables municipalities to establish local conservation authorities, and when municipalities choose to form such authorities, they assume responsibility for governance and funding through the appointment of a Board of Directors and the provision of an annual levy to cover expenses; and

Whereas the Municipality of South Huron established the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (initially formed in 1947) and Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (initially formed in 1946); and

Whereas local municipalities currently provide approximately 35% of total conservation authority funding, while the Province of Ontario provides approximately 2% (2026 budget); and

Whereas municipalities have governed their respective conservation authorities for decades, tailoring programs and services to local watershed needs, maintaining accountable service standards, and ensuring fair and predictable costs for ratepayers; and

Whereas conservation authorities collectively own and manage thousands of acres of land. Many of these properties were entrusted to the UTRCA for long-term protection, stewardship, and the public good, with the expectation that such lands would be cared for by locally governed conservation authorities; and

Whereas Bill 68 (Schedule 3) proposes the creation of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency, a Crown corporation that would assume governance responsibilities and consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into seven regional authorities, with municipal cost apportionment yet to be defined; and

Whereas the Province already possesses the authority to establish overarching legislation, regulations, and standards through the Conservation Authorities Act and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;

Now Therefore be it Resolved That the Council of the Municipality of South Huron calls on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities to ensure strong local representation in decisions related to municipal levies, community-focused service delivery, and the protection and management of conservation lands; and

Further That while the Municipality of South Huron supports provincial goals for consistent permit approval processes, shared services, and digital modernization, imposing a new top-down agency structure without strong local accountability and governance risks creating unnecessary cost, red tape, and bureaucracy, thereby undermining efficiency and responsiveness to local community needs; and



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759
Exeter Ontario
N0M 1S6
Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304
Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747
www.southhuron.ca

Further That the Municipality of South Huron supports efforts to balance expertise, capacity, and program delivery across the province, and requests that the Province work collaboratively with municipalities and local conservation authorities to determine the most effective level of strategic consolidation to achieve both provincial and local objectives; and

Further That a copy of this resolution be sent to:

- the Ontario Minister of Environment, Conservation, and Parks,
- local MPPs,
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario,
- Rural Ontario Municipal Association,
- area Indigenous communities,
- all municipalities,
- Conservation Authorities, and
- Conservation Ontario.

Result: Carried

Respectfully,

Kendra Webster, Legislative & Licensing Coordinator
Municipality of South Huron
kwebster@southhuron.ca
519-235-0310 x. 232

Encl.

cc: MPP, Hon. Lisa Thompson, lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org; AMO, resolutions@amo.on.ca; ROMA, roma@roma.on.ca; area indigenous communities; all municipalities in Ontario; Conservation Ontario, info@conservationontario.ca; all Conservation Authorities in Ontario



December 18, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Via Email: premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford,

RE: Bill 68 and Proposed Consolidation of Conservation Authorities

At the December 17, 2025 meeting of the Council of the Township of Zorra, the following resolution was passed:

Moved by: Paul Mitchell

Seconded by: Kevin Stewart

"WHEREAS the Conservation Authorities Act (1946) enables municipalities to establish local conservation authorities, and when municipalities choose to form such authorities, they assume responsibility for governance and funding through the appointment of a Board of Directors and the provision of an annual levy to cover expenses;

AND WHEREAS the Township of Zorra established the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (initially formed in 1947);

AND WHEREAS local municipalities currently provide approximately 35% of total conservation authority funding, while the Province of Ontario provides approximately 2% (2026 budget);

AND WHEREAS municipalities have governed their respective conservation authorities for decades, tailoring programs and services to local watershed needs, maintaining accountable service standards, and ensuring fair and predictable costs for ratepayers;

AND WHEREAS conservation authorities collectively own and manage thousands of acres of land. Many of these properties were entrusted to the UTRCA for long-term protection, stewardship, and the public good, with the expectation that such lands would be cared for by locally governed conservation authorities;

AND WHEREAS Bill 68 (Schedule 3) proposes the creation of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency, a Crown corporation that would assume governance responsibilities and consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into seven regional authorities, with municipal cost apportionment yet to be defined;

AND WHEREAS the Province already possesses the authority to establish overarching legislation, regulations, and standards through the Conservation Authorities Act and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Zorra calls on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities to ensure strong local representation in decisions related to municipal levies, community-focused service delivery, and the protection and management of conservation lands;

AND FURTHER THAT while the Township of Zorra supports provincial goals for consistent permit approval processes, shared services, and digital modernization, imposing a new top-down agency structure without strong local accountability and governance risks creating unnecessary cost, red tape, and bureaucracy, thereby undermining efficiency and responsiveness to local community needs;

AND FURTHER THAT the Township of Zorra supports efforts to balance expertise, capacity, and program delivery across the province, and requests that the Province work collaboratively with municipalities and local conservation authorities to determine the most effective level of strategic consolidation to achieve both provincial and local objectives.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to:

- Premier Doug Ford
- the Ontario Minister of Environment, Conservation, and Parks,
- Ernie Hardeman, MPP for the riding of Oxford
- Rural Ontario Municipal Association
- All municipalities in the UTRCA watershed
- All Conservation Authorities in Ontario
- Conservation Ontario

Disposition: Carried

Should you require anything further or have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Thank you,



Karen Martin
Director of Corporate & Protective Services/Clerk

CC: All those noted on resolution (by email)

25-060

Resolution
Special Council Meeting



Agenda Number: 7.1.1.
Resolution Number: 2025-215
Title: Response to Bill 68 – Conservation Authority Changes
Date: Wednesday, December 10, 2025

Moved by Mike Tarnowski
Seconded by Genevieve Lajoie

Whereas the *Conservation Authorities Act* (R.S.O. 1990, c. C.27) enables municipalities to establish conservation authorities, and when municipalities choose to form such authorities, they assume responsibility for governance and funding through the appointment of Board Members and the provision of annual municipal levies to support mandatory and non-mandatory programs and services;

And whereas the municipalities within Eastern Ontario, including the United Counties of Prescott and Russell (the “UCPR”), are founding municipal partners of the South Nation Conservation Authority (1947) and the Raisin Region Conservation Authority (1963);

And whereas municipal governments currently provide between 25% and 50% of total conservation authority funding, while the Province of Ontario provides approximately 3%;

And whereas municipalities have, for decades, governed their respective conservation authorities to ensure that programs, services, fee structures, permitting processes, and public service delivery remain aligned with local watershed needs and accountable to ratepayers;

And whereas conservation authorities collectively own and manage significant public lands across Ontario, including lands donated by local residents with the expectation that they would be protected, stewarded, and governed locally for the long-term public good;

And whereas Bill 68 proposes the creation of a new Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency—a Crown corporation that would assume governance responsibilities and consolidate Ontario’s 36 conservation authorities into seven regional authorities, with municipal cost apportionment and governance structures yet to be defined;

And whereas the Province already holds the authority to set provincial standards, regulations, and expectations for conservation authority operations under the *Conservation Authorities Act* and through the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;

Be it resolved that the Council of the UCPR call on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities, ensuring strong municipal representation in decisions related to levies, service delivery, land management, and community-focused program outcomes.

Be it further resolved that while the UCPR support provincial objectives related to consistent permitting standards, shared services, and digital modernization, the imposition of a top-down centralized agency risks increasing cost, red tape, and administrative complexity while reducing accountability and responsiveness to local watershed needs.

Be it further resolved that the UCPR support balanced approaches to improving capacity, efficiency, and technical expertise across conservation authorities and request that the Province work collaboratively with municipalities and existing conservation authorities to evaluate where strategic consolidation—if any—is appropriate, effective, and financially sustainable.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Ontario Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; the local Member of Parliament and Member of Provincial Parliament; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Rural Ontario Municipal Association; and all municipalities and conservation authorities in Ontario.

Carried

Mélissa Cadieux, Clerk



LONG POINT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

STAFF REPORT

Date: January 7, 2025

File: 3.3.1

To: Chair and Members,
LPRCA Board of Directors

From: General Manager, LPRCA

Re: Section 28 Regulation Approved Permits
Prohibited Activities, Exemptions and Permits (O. Reg. 41/24)

Recommendation:

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors receives the staff approved Section 28 Regulation Approved Permits report as information.

Links to Strategic Plan:

Strategic Direction # 1 – Protect People and Property from Flooding and Natural Hazards
Strategic Direction # 2 – Deliver Exceptional Services and Experiences
Strategic Direction # 4 – Organizational Excellence

Background:

Application# LPRCA-60/25 REVISED

Concession 16B Blk, Lot 16 & 17, 60 Sea Queen Road, Norfolk County – Port Rowan

- The proposed work – to construct a 14.8m² (160 ft²) non-habitable accessory building and the associated concrete pad approximately 10 metres from a Provincially Significant Wetland,
- A revision is required as the proposed location of the structure has changed and is proposed to be located 10 metres further away from the shoreline,
- A satisfactory site plan and construction details were submitted in support of the application,
- There is no opportunity for conversion into habitable space,
- The application is within the Lake Erie erosion hazard and the proposed structure is not likely to affect the control of erosion,
- The application is within the regulated area adjacent to a wetland, the hydrology of the wetland will not be negatively impacted by the proposed development, and
- The application is within the Lake Erie flood hazard and the proposed structure is not likely to affect the control of flooding.

Application# LPRCA- 179/25

Roadway R.O.W, Elgin County – Municipality of Bayham

- The proposed work – to directionally bore as a means to install fiberoptic cable, along the roadside R.O.W.

- A satisfactory construction drawing and site plan were submitted in support of this application,
- A satisfactory sediment and erosion control plan and emergency response plan were submitted in support of this application, and
- The application is within the riverine flood hazard allowance and this application will not negatively affect the control of flooding.

Application# LPRCA-202/25

Concession 1, Lot 3, 171 Lakeshore Road, Haldimand County – Rainham

- The proposed work – to retain a ramp to access the beach which includes 13 m³ (455 ft³) of rip rap stone and a layer of fine granular stone.
- A satisfactory site plan and construction details were submitted in support of this application,
- The susceptibility to natural hazards is not increased or new hazards created,
- There is no impact on existing and future slope stability, and
- The application is within the Lake Erie shoreline flooding and erosion hazard and this proposal will not negatively affect the control of flooding or erosion.

Application# LPRCA-203/25

Concession 1, Lot 24, 329 Bluewater Parkway, Haldimand County - Walpole

- The proposed work – to renovate an existing 46.7m² (503ft²) dwelling which includes replacement of the roof, patch replacement of floor joists and beams, installation of additional wall studs, and covering of the existing front deck,
- A satisfactory site plan and construction drawings were submitted in support of the application,
- Susceptibility to natural hazards is not increased or new hazards created, and
- The application is within the Lake Erie shoreline flooding and erosion hazards and the proposed development will not negatively affect the control of flooding and/or erosion.

Application# LPRCA-204/25

Concession 5, Lot 2, Hammer Line, Oxford County – Norwich

- The proposed work – to install temporary cofferdams in support of concrete repair work to the abutments and wingwalls of a bridge situated over Otter Creek as well as the placement of rip-rap on its banks,
- Satisfactory plans and drawings were submitted in support of the application,
- The susceptibility to natural hazards is not increased or new hazards created,
- A satisfactory erosion and sediment control plan was submitted in support of the proposal,
- The application is within the riverine flooding and erosion hazards and the proposed work will not have a negative impact on the control of flooding and/or erosion,
- The application is within the area of interference adjacent to a Provincially Significant Wetland and there will not be any adverse or negative impacts to the hydrological function of the wetland.

Application# LPRCA- 205/25

Multiple locations, Oxford County – Norwich

- The proposed work – to install fibre optic cable via directional drilling along the

- municipal road right-of-way,
- Satisfactory site plans and construction details were submitted in support of the application,
- A satisfactory erosion and sediment control plan was submitted,
- There are no feasible alternative sites outside of the regulated areas,
- The risk of creating new riverine flooding or erosion hazards or aggravating existing hazards as a result of the development are negligible, and
- The application is within the riverine erosion and flood hazard allowance and this proposal will not negatively affect the control of flooding and erosion.

Application# LPRCA- 206/25

Multiple locations in the Road R.O.W, Oxford County – Norwich

- The proposed work – to install fibre optic cable via directional drilling along the municipal road right-of-way,
- Satisfactory site plans and construction details were submitted in support of the application,
- A satisfactory erosion and sediment control plan was submitted,
- There are no feasible alternative sites outside of the regulated areas,
- The risk of creating new riverine flooding or erosion hazards or aggravating existing hazards as a result of the development are negligible, and
- The application is within the riverine erosion and flood hazard allowance and this proposal will not negatively affect the control of flooding and erosion.

Application# LPRCA-207/25

Concession 2, Lot 44, 28 Dalton Road, Norfolk County - Delhi

- The proposed work – to recognize site grading on the property and facilitate the relocation of previously stockpiled fill,
- A satisfactory site plan and grading plan was submitted in support of the application,
- The risk of creating a new riverine erosion hazard or aggravating an existing hazard as a result of the development is negligible,
- All stockpiled fill will be moved to an area at least 6 metres from the top of slope,
- The application is partially within the area of interference adjacent to a Provincially Significant Wetland and the hydrological function of the wetland was not and will not be negatively impacted by the development, and
- The application is within the riverine erosion hazard and the control of erosion was not and will not be impacted by the development.

Application# LPRCA- 208/25

Plan 41M-395, Lot 38, 55 Greenhill Drive, Oxford County – Tillsonburg

- The proposed work – to construct a new residential dwelling with 384 m² (4,132ft²) of habitable floor space, an attached garage and the associated grading.
- A satisfactory site plan and construction drawings were submitted in support of this application,
- A satisfactory slope stability analysis completed by a Professional Engineer with competencies in geotechnical engineering was submitted in support of this application,
- The risk of creating new Riverine Erosion Hazards or aggravating existing Riverine Erosion Hazards as a result of the development is negligible,

- Access into and through the valley for maintenance will not be prevented, and
- The application is within the riverine hazard allowance and this proposal will not negatively affect slope stability.

Application# LPRCA-209/25

Plan 7267, Lot 46-57, 6 Pike Lane, Haldimand County – Rainham

- The proposed work – to raise an existing cottage and install a new pier foundation,
- A satisfactory site plan and construction drawings were submitted in support of the application,
- The top of foundation elevation will be at or above the floodproofing elevation of 177.25 CGVD28,
- Susceptibility to natural hazards is not increased or new hazards created, and
- The application is within the Lake Erie shoreline flooding hazard and the proposed development will not negatively affect the control of flooding.

Application# LPRCA-210/25

Concession 7, Lot 7, 1350 Haldimand Road 55, Haldimand County – Walpole

- The proposed work – to construct a cold storage facility approximately 3,200m² (35,000 ft²) in size, a septic system, stormwater management pond and the associated grading.
- A satisfactory site plan, construction drawings, stormwater management report and sediment and erosion control plan were submitted in support of this application,
- The first-floor elevation of the facility is above the floodproofing elevation of 207.02m (CGVD28),
- The susceptibility to natural hazards is not increased or new hazards created, and
- The application is within the riverine flood hazard allowance and this proposal will not negatively affect the control of flooding.

Application# LPRCA-213/25

Concession 7, Lot 20, 1554 Charlottesville Road 8, Norfolk County – Charlottesville

- The proposed work – to place two culverts (2 feet in diameter) side by side in an existing drainage channel for access across the channel, approximately 10 metres from a Provincially Significant Wetland.
- A satisfactory site plan and drawings were submitted in support of this application, and
- The application is within the area of interference adjacent to a Provincially Significant Wetland. The hydrologic function of the wetland will not be negatively impacted by this development.

Application# LPRCA- 214/25

Plan 429, Lot 111, 11 Teal Avenue, Norfolk County – South Walsingham

- The proposed work – to replace the existing boathouse with a two storey boathouse with approximately 50m² (493 ft²) of enclosed storage space adjacent to a Provincially Significant Wetland.
- A satisfactory site plan and construction drawings were submitted in support of this application,
- The structure has an area of less than 100m²,

- There is no opportunity for the structure to be converted into habitable space in the future,
- There is no feasible alternative site outside the Lake Erie Shoreline Flooding or Erosion Hazard,
- The susceptibility to natural hazards is not increased or new hazards created,
- The application is within the Lake Erie shoreline flooding and erosion hazard and this proposal will not negatively affect the control of flooding and erosion, and
- The application is within the area of interference adjacent to a Provincially Significant Wetland. The hydrologic function of the wetland will not be negatively impacted by this development.

Application# LPRCA-215/25

Plan 133, Lot 89, 185 Ordnance Avenue, Norfolk County – Charlottesville

- The proposed work – to construct a 31m² (336 ft²) three-season sunroom addition to the existing vacation home.
- A satisfactory site plan and construction drawings were submitted in support of this application,
- No basement is proposed and the helical pile foundation has been engineered,
- Susceptibility to natural hazards is not increased or new hazards created, and
- The application is within the Lake Erie shoreline flooding hazard, and this proposal will not negatively affect the control of flooding or erosion

Application# LPRCA-216/25

Concession 1, Plan 207, Lot 12 &13, Passmore Avenue, Norfolk County – Port Dover

- The proposed work – To propeller-wash a 5,500m² (59,202ft²) section of the approach channel to the Port Dover Marina to a maximum depth of 1.8m (5.9ft) to allow for safe vessel passage,
- A satisfactory site plan and details were submitted in support of the application,
- No sediment will be removed from Lake Erie, and
- The application is within the Lake Erie flooding and erosion hazards and the proposal will not negatively impact the control of flood and/or erosion.

Application# LPRCA-217/25

Concession 12, Lot 26, 144775 Potters Road, Oxford County – Norwich

- The proposed work – to construct a 86m² (925ft²) non-habitable accessory structure, retaining wall, and the associated grading and drainage works,
- A satisfactory slope stability assessment was completed in support of the proposed works,
- A satisfactory grading plan and construction details were submitted in support of the proposed works,
- There is no impact on existing or future slope stability,
- The potential of increased loading forces on the top of the slope is addressed through appropriate structural design, and
- The application is within the riverine erosion hazard and the control of erosion will not be affected.

Application# LPRCA-218/25

Plan 352, Lot 12-14 & 22, 1008 & 1010 William Lane, Norfolk County – South Walsingham

- The proposed work – to install 24.2m (79.4ft) of new steel seawall which will close off an existing boatwell and to remove an approximate total of 552m³ (19,550.3ft³) of sediment from another boatwell and abutting channel via dredging which will then be used to backfill the newly closed off boatwell,
- A satisfactory site plan and details was submitted in support of the application,
- The susceptibility to natural hazards is not increased or new hazards created,
- The application is adjacent to a Provincially Significant Wetland and the hydrological function of the wetland will not be negatively impacted by the work, and
- The application is within the Lake Erie flooding and erosion hazards and the control of flooding and/or erosion will not be negatively impacted by the work.

Application# LPRCA-219/25

Concession 1, Lot 19 & 20, 274 Front Road, Norfolk County – South Walsingham

- The proposed work – to dredge and propeller-wash a 6,284.9m² (67,650ft²) area of an existing channel to a maximum depth of 3m (9.8ft), store and subsequently spread the dredged material on-site, and to extend a concrete boat ramp by 9.2m (30.3ft),
- Satisfactory site plans and work details were submitted in support of the application,
- The susceptibility to natural hazards is not increased and no new hazards created,
- The application is adjacent to Provincially Significant Wetlands and the hydrological function of the wetlands will not be negatively impacted by the work,
- A satisfactory erosion and sediment control plan was included with the application, and
- The application is within the Lake Erie flooding and erosion hazards and the control of flooding and/or erosion will not be negatively impacted by the proposed work.

Financial Implication:

N/A

Prepared by:

Isabel Johnson

Isabel Johnson
Resource Planner

Prepared by:

Braedan Ristine

Braedan Ristine
Resource Planner

Reviewed by:

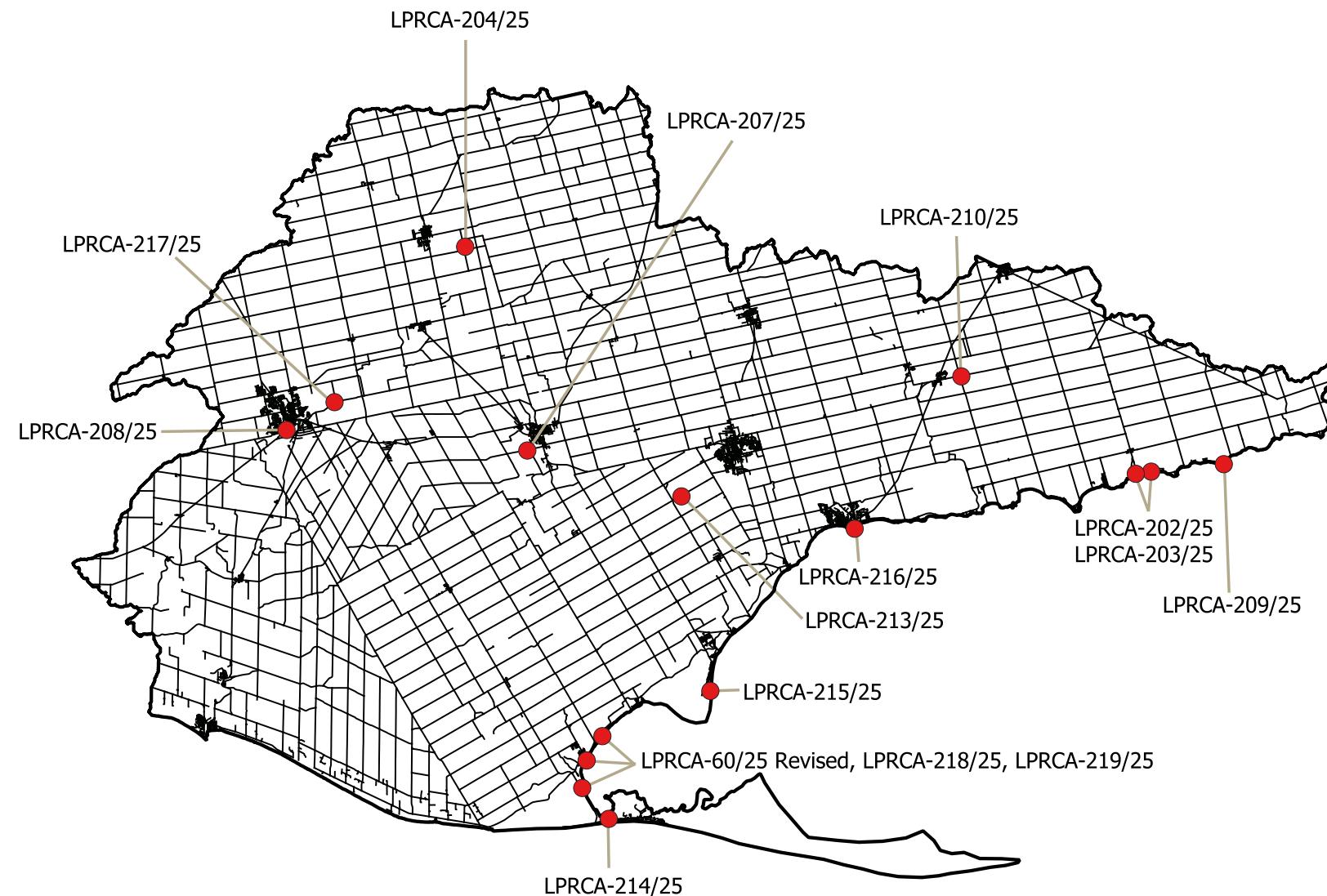
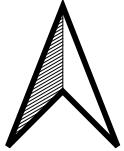
Leigh-Anne Mauthe

Leigh-Anne Mauthe, MCIP, RPP
Manager of Watershed Services

Approved and submitted by:

Judy Maxwell

Judy Maxwell, CPA, CGA
General Manager



LONG POINT REGION
CONSERVATION
AUTHORITY

Approved Applications
O. Reg. 41/24

Users of the LPRCA's maps and data are cautioned to consider the provisional nature of the information before using it for decisions that concern personal or public safety or the conduct of business. LPRCA assumes no responsibility for the correctness of the information contained in this map nor liability to any user of such information, regardless of the purpose.



LONG POINT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY STAFF REPORT

Date: December 19, 2025 **File:** 1.1.2

To: Chair and Members
LPRCA Board of Directors

From: General Manager/Secretary Treasurer, LPRCA

Re: GM's Report – December 2025

Recommendation:

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors receives the General Manager's Report for December 2025 as information.

Strategic Direction:

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

Background:

On December 12th, I attended the Regional Engagement Session – Conservation Authority Regional Consolidation in London with Vice-Chair Doug Brunton representing LPRCA. Board Chair Dave Beres and Members Ed Ketchabaw and Chris VanPaassen also attended the session on behalf of their municipalities. The regional engagement session opened with remarks from Minister Todd McCarthy and then a presentation from Chief Conservation Executive (CCE) Hassaan Basit. Following the CCE's presentation, each table discussed assigned questions on how the Province could successfully role out the regional consolidations of Conservation Authorities. Overall, based on the responses from the individual groups, the general sentiment was in opposition to the proposed consolidations.

The LPRCA's response to the Environmental Registry of Ontario: Proposed boundaries for the regional consolidation of Ontario's conservation authorities was submitted on December 18, 2025. Attached is the submission to the ERO #025-1257 (Attachment # 1).

The Backus Museum Committee held its final meeting of the year on December 18, 2025 and staff provided the committee with an operational update, planned events report, Conservation Authorities regional consolidations update, and Historic Site Facility Assessment update. The Backus Museum Committee also recognized Julie Stone, Madaline Wilson and Heather Smith for their service on the committee as their appointment terms have come to an end.

On Friday, December 19, 2025, the Lee Brown Marsh Management Committee held its final meeting of the year and Marsh Manager Kim Brown provided a operational update, financial report was presented and a Conservation Authorities regional consolidations update was reviewed.

Staff has reviewed 222 permit applications as of December 22nd 2025 compared to 198 permit applications in 2024. Staff has also reviewed and provided comments to municipal staff on 122 *Planning Act* applications and 20 pre-consultations.

The updated regulation area mapping that was approved at the December 3, 2025 Board meeting has been distributed to member municipalities for their use.

The 2025 fall Outdoor and Heritage Education school programs ended the week of December 12th and will be resuming in March 2026.

Forestry staff have issued the first timber tender (Harris Floyd – Block #4) for 2026 which will be closing January 5, 2026. Staff have been performing cut inspections marking future harvest tracts (Earl Danylevich and Casselton) and completing the HWA inventory.

Staff are all working hard in delivering our programs and services to the residents of the watershed.

Prepared and submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judy Maxwell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Judy" on the top line and "Maxwell" on the bottom line.

Judy Maxwell, CPA, CGA
General Manager

Proposed boundaries for the regional consolidation of Ontario's conservation authorities (ERO#025-1257)

Submission: Written Submission

Organization Name: Long Point Region Conservation Authority

Date: Thursday, December 18, 2025

Address: 4 Elm Street, Tillsonburg, ON N4G 0C4

Email Address: jmaxwell@lprca.on.ca

Phone Number: 519-842-4242

ERO Submission: LPRCA Response to ERO Posting #025-1257

Proposed Boundaries for the Regional Consolidation of Ontario's Conservation Authorities

Long Point Region Conservation Authority (LPRCA) appreciates the opportunity to comment on Ontario's proposal to consolidate 36 Conservation Authorities (CAs) into seven Regional Conservation Authorities (RCAs). This submission provides feedback intended to encourage sound policy development, protect public interest, and ensure effective watershed management.

The Long Point Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors does not support the Regional Conservation Authority consolidation proposal outlined in the Environmental Registry of Ontario notice. LPRCA maintains that the proposed RCA boundaries are far too large to sustain the effective, locally responsive services and programs that conservation authorities currently deliver. The scale of the proposed RCAs would reduce local autonomy, dilute, or eliminate the voices of rural municipalities, and increase financial pressures. To date, insufficient evidence has been provided to demonstrate that the proposed consolidations would result in more effective or cost-efficient program delivery. In the absence of a comprehensive cost-benefit analysis and meaningful consultation with municipalities and CAs, the proposed approach risks slowing approval processes and undermining informed, locally driven decision-making.

Before proceeding with consolidation, the Province is encouraged to fully evaluate whether modernization goals could be achieved through the new Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA), without restructuring the existing CA framework.

1. What do you see as key factors to support a successful transition and outcome of regional CA consolidation?

LPRCA notes that any successful transition to a regional conservation authority model must have the support of those who established and fund CAs (member municipalities), provincial government, those responsible for CA governance (Boards of Directors), and the staff who deliver programs locally. Such support is most effectively cultivated through locally driven consultation rather than through top-down directives.

LPRCA recommends that the Province pursue its modernization objectives within the existing CA framework by leveraging legislative and regulatory amendments, technological improvements, and enhanced compliance verification.

2. What opportunities or benefits may come from a regional CA framework?

In analyzing the potential opportunities or benefits that may come from a regional CA framework, it is also important to note the potential disadvantages that may come from a regional CA framework. Listed below are the pros (advantages) and cons (disadvantages):

Pros:

- A single digital permitting system, province-wide permit performance standards, and updated floodplain maps
- Standardized permitting policies, permitting fees, and levels of staffing
- Standardized HR and administrative policies and procedures
- Potential overhead/administration efficiencies in a centralized support environment
- Modernization of software such as electronic digital retention management systems for CAs that don't have the capacity

Cons:

- No evidence has been provided that the benefits of the RCA will outweigh the costs for member municipalities
- Standardized permitting policies minimizes the local challenges of each individual watershed as many CAs face similar issues; however, there is also unique geographic/landscape issues related to permitting and floods & natural hazards within each CA
- Standardized permitting fees could substantially increase fees for permit applicants
- Local knowledge/staffing will be lost through streamlining and centralization
- Increased upfront levies to member municipalities to implement the regional consolidation and if efficiencies are not realized and in addition of the OPCA levying CAs (indirect tax) could potentially lead to long-term increased municipal levies for member municipalities
- Standardizing RCA logo's, signage, vehicle fleets will be costly to implement
- CAs in a healthy financial position with low dependence on municipal levies will be penalized upon consolidation to subsidize CAs with a higher dependence on municipal levies
- Reorganizational structure costs are inevitable, and the financial impact should not be transferred to the member municipalities as this consolidation is driven by the Province

The proposal for a regional conservation authority framework has prompted discussion around the existing deficiencies within the current CA system. However, these challenges can be effectively addressed through targeted provincial investment to enhance and standardize tools such as flood hazard mapping, technical guides, and regulation mapping. Additionally, the Province could continue to update policies and standards to better align with its objectives.

LPRCA does not believe that the proposed regional CA framework would provide any opportunities or benefits that cannot already be achieved within the existing CA structure.

3. Do you have suggestions for how governance could be structured at the regional CA level, including suggestions around board size, make-up and the municipal representative appointment process?

There is no governance model or structure within the proposed regional conservation authority framework that would ensure adequate municipal representation for all member municipalities that would be funding the RCA. The proposed structure would also disproportionately affect rural municipalities by diluting or eliminating their representation and voices in favour of larger urban centres. Given the extensive geographic scale of the proposed RCA, competing priorities among watersheds are inevitable. Without direct municipal representation from smaller watershed communities, the programs and services in those areas would be placed at significant risk.

The Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency authority, scope and limits need to be clarified, and the governance model must define the decisions reserved for the RCA board.

4. Do you have suggestions on how to maintain a transparent and consultative budgeting process across member municipalities within a regional CA?

The current budgeting process under O. Reg 402/22: Budget and Apportionment is transparent and consultative under the current 36 local CA model. Under the proposed RCA consolidation model, the local input, transparency, consultation and representation will be lost due to the sheer size of the proposed RCA.

A system that would support the proposed RCA could be created, but at what price?

There is no sufficient system that would allow transparency and genuine consultation with municipal funders under the proposed RCA with 81 municipalities given the geographic scale.

5. How can regional CAs maintain and strengthen relationships with local communities and stakeholders?

To maintain and strengthen relationships with local communities and stakeholders, an organization must maintain a local presence through local offices and staff to provide timely permitting, program delivery, operations, community engagement and effective stewardship. Flood forecasting and warning systems are critical public safety functions that must not be disrupted and needs to include local knowledge of the land. LPRCA provides recreational opportunities for the public. Any centralization or asset disposition would jeopardize public benefit, as decisions made at a regional or provincial level may not reflect local community needs or priorities. LPRCA has a community committee that was established as a condition of a land donation that provides valuable local input into the management of the land. These unique types of relationships need to be considered in any new governance model.

The Province should engage in constructive and transparent consultation with CAs and municipalities who established, fund and govern their local CAs before proposing changes that will continue to levy for the proposed RCA and the OPCA all while reducing local municipal input/representation, governance and control.

Many local residents have left significant financial and property assets to LPRCA with the intention of preserving and continuing works at the local level. Many of these have been left in legacy through property names, signage, galleries, and park additions. How will these property and legacy assets be protected through the RCA process? This transition will erode public trust if not properly managed. Continuation of these types of donations is put at risk due to local connection being lost.



LONG POINT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY STAFF REPORT

Date: December 18, 2025

File: 1.4.1

To: Chair and Members
LPRCA Board of Directors
From: General Manager, LPRCA

Re: 2026 Draft Fee Schedules

Recommendation:

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors approves the proposed 2026 Fee Schedules as presented to be effective January 8, 2026.

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to present the members with the 2026 Draft Fee Schedules for approval.

Links to Strategic Plan:

Strategic Direction #4 – Organizational Excellence

Background:

The LPRCA Fee Policy specifies that fees charged by the Authority will be reviewed annually by staff to monitor effectiveness and amended by the Board of Directors as deemed appropriate.

The draft fee schedules were presented and approved as part of the 2026 Draft Budget meeting held November 13, 2025 and sent out to our municipal partners for the 30-day comment and review period.

Discussion:

The 2026 Draft Budget Planning and Regulatory Fees included a 5% on average as increase as there was no fee increase allowed in 2023, 2024 and 2025 by Provincial Ministers direction.

Camping fees are increasing on average 2.43% and the Education Programming fees increase is approximately 3%.

Attached are the fee schedules:

- Planning and Regulatory Fees – Ont. Regulation 41/24 Permit Fees, Planning Act Review Fees
- Conservation Area User Fees – Backus Heritage, Deer Creek, Haldimand, Norfolk, Waterford North
- Corporate Fees and all other fee schedules

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Prepared by:

Aaron LeDuc

Aaron LeDuc, CPA, CGA
Manager of Corporate Services

Approved and submitted by:

Judy Maxwell

Judy Maxwell, CPA, CGA
General Manager

Ontario Regulation 41/24 Permit Fees				
Application Type	2025 Fees	Proposed 2026 Fees	% Change	
Very minor development Development with very low risk of impact on natural hazards or natural features. Examples: <input type="checkbox"/> Non-habitable accessory structures less than 23 m ² (247 ft ²), e.g. decks, fences, above-ground pools, barns, sheds <input type="checkbox"/> Fill placement removal and/or grading (landscaping, driveway top-dressing) <input type="checkbox"/> Off-line pond maintenance	\$ 200	\$ 210	5%	
Minor development, interference and alteration Development/work with low risk of impact on natural hazards or natural features. No technical reports are required. Examples: <input type="checkbox"/> Raising building or additions not requiring engineered drawings <input type="checkbox"/> Repairs/renovations to existing building <input type="checkbox"/> Non-habitable accessory structures less than 100 m ² (1076ft ²) <input type="checkbox"/> Septic system <input type="checkbox"/> Fill placement, removal/or grading (not requiring engineered plans) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor development (as listed above) more than 30 metres from a wetlands <input type="checkbox"/> New or replacement residential structures more than 30 metres from a wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Minor utilities (directional bore) <input type="checkbox"/> New offline ponds (grading plan required) <input type="checkbox"/> Docks, boathouses <input type="checkbox"/> Routine/maintenance dredging <input type="checkbox"/> Minor repairs to existing shoreline structures <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance, repair or replacement of access crossings <input type="checkbox"/> Other applications not deemed by staff to be "Major" in nature	\$ 405	\$ 425	5%	
Major development, interference and alteration Development/work with moderate risk of impact on natural hazards or natural features. Detailed report and/or plans are required. Examples: <input type="checkbox"/> Raising building or additions requiring engineered plans <input type="checkbox"/> Non-habitable accessory structures greater than 100 m ² (1076ft ²) <input type="checkbox"/> New or replacement structures in a natural hazard area <input type="checkbox"/> Fill placement, removal and/or grading (requiring engineered plans) <input type="checkbox"/> Development (including minor development as listed above) less than 30 metres from a wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Major development greater than 30 m from a wetland <input type="checkbox"/> New offline pond with overflow or channel connection <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance/repairs to existing shoreline structures <input type="checkbox"/> Water crossing, bridge repair <input type="checkbox"/> Stormwater management outlet structure <input type="checkbox"/> Other applications deemed by staff to be "Major" in nature	\$ 695	\$ 730	5%	

Ontario Regulation 41/24 Permit Fees				
Application Type	2025	Proposed 2026 Fees	% Change	
Complex development, interference and alteration <u>Development/work with a high risk and/or potential impact to natural hazards or natural features. One or more studies are required, e.g. an environmental impact study, hydraulic analysis, storm water management report or slope stability study. Examples:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Large fill placement, removal, grading (greater than 1000 m ³) <input type="checkbox"/> Golf courses <input type="checkbox"/> New watercourse bank stabilization <input type="checkbox"/> New Lake Erie shoreline protection structure <input type="checkbox"/> Bridge replacement <input type="checkbox"/> Channel realignment	\$ 1,380	\$ 1,450	5%	
General				
On Site Technical Advice Fee (Will be applied to permit application if submitted within 12 months from inspection)	\$ 248.60 HST included	\$ 260.00 HST included	5%	
Wetland Boundary Delineation (Review of MNRF Wetland boundary in the field by LPRCA ecologist, on property owner request)	\$ 360.00 HST included	\$ 375.00 HST included	4%	
Title Clearance (solicitor, realtor, other requests for detailed property information)	\$ 248.60 HST included	\$ 260.00 HST included	5%	
Violations/Application where work has proceeded without authorization	2 x Fee	2 x Fee		
Permit Revisions (Must be minor in nature and permit must still be valid.)	\$ 95	\$ 100	5%	
Renewal Fee (New)	\$ -	\$ 100	0%	
Minister's Zoning Order (MZO) (Permit associated with a Minister's Zoning Order)	Cost recovery	Cost recovery		

General Notes for all Application Fees

1. It is strongly recommended that proponents pre-consult with LPRCA and, if necessary the municipality, prior to the submission of an application and the preparation of detailed plans and technical report(s).
2. Fees must be paid at the time the permit application is submitted. Fees may be paid by debit, cash or cheque (made out to the Long Point Region Conservation Authority) over the phone by credit card or at the LPRCA administration office
3. In the event that the application is placed in a higher fee category, the difference in fee must be paid prior to review. If the application is placed in a lower category, LPRCA will reimburse the applicant accordingly.
4. Fees are assessed based on the extent of review required. LPRCA reserves the right to levy supplementary fees should the review require a substantially greater level of effort than covered by the standard categories above; this supplementary fee includes the peer review of any relevant documents or information.
5. The fees for technical review include one comprehensive review, and one review of the resubmission. Second and each additional resubmission shall be subject to a resubmission fee of 20% of the original application up to a maximum of \$525.
6. Where a Section 28 permit approval is required in addition to a Planning Act application for the same activity, the Section 28 permit fee will be **discounted 50%**.
7. Where a permit has been submitted for an activity across multiple properties and applicants working together, the fee for each property shall be calculated as 50% of the permit fee. For example, the fee for a new shoreline protection structure constructed across two properties is \$725 each.
8. Costs associated with permits (including any conditions) issued under a Minister's Zoning Order shall be paid by the applicant, this includes but is not limited to staff time, any legal review, board expenses, etc.

Planning Act Review Fees				
Application Type	2025 Fees	Proposed 2026 Fees	% Change	
Preconsultation Fee				
Review, comment, or participation in preconsultation process	\$ 300	\$ 315	5%	
Subdivision and Vacant Land Condominium	\$1,380 + \$100/lot (Total Maximum \$15,000.00 +HST)	\$1,450 + \$105/lot (Total Maximum \$15,000.00 +HST)	5%	
To draft plan approval including associated OPA and ZBA	\$ 455	\$ 475	4%	
Red-line revision (applicant initiated)	\$ 720	\$ 755	5%	
Technical plans and reports (SWM with grading & sediment)	\$ 225	\$ 235	4%	
Clearance letter (each phase)				
Zoning By-Law Amendment				
Minor	\$ 455	\$ 475	4%	
Accompanied by 1 technical report	\$ 720	\$ 755	5%	
Accompanied by 2 technical reports	\$ 1,430	\$ 1,500	5%	
Combined Official Plan/Zoning By-Law Amendment				
Minor	\$ 720	\$ 755	5%	
Accompanied by 1 technical report	\$ 1,430	\$ 1,500	5%	
Accompanied by 2 technical reports	\$ 2,060	\$ 2,160	5%	
Consent (severance)				
Minor	\$ 455	\$ 475	4%	
Accompanied by 1 technical report	\$ 720	\$ 755	5%	
Accompanied by 2 technical reports	\$ 1,430	\$ 1,500	5%	
Variance				
Minor	\$ 455	\$ 477	5%	
Accompanied by 1 technical report	\$ 720	\$ 755	5%	
Accompanied by 2 technical reports	\$ 1,430	\$ 1,500	5%	
Site Plan Control				
Minor	\$ 455	\$ 475	4%	
Accompanied by 1 technical report	\$ 720	\$ 755	5%	
Accompanied by 2 technical reports	\$ 1,430	\$ 1,500	5%	
Complex Application (incl. OPA/ZBL/Site Plan) for golf courses, trailer parks, campgrounds and lifestyle communities.	\$ 2,060	\$ 2,160	5%	

General Notes for All Application Fees:

1. It is strongly recommended that proponents pre-consult with LPRCA and, if necessary the municipality, prior to the submission of all applications and the preparation of detailed technical reports(s).
2. This fee schedule is effective as of **January 8, 2026** and LPRCA reserves the right to revise this fee schedule at any time without notice to adequately cover the costs to provide the service.
3. All applicable taxes are extra.
4. Applications that fall under one or more categories will be charged at the highest rate.
5. Fees are assessed based on the extent of review required. LPRCA reserves the right to levy supplementary
6. The fees for technical review include one comprehensive review, and one review of the resubmission. Second and each additional resubmission shall be subject to a resubmission fee of 20% of the original application up to a maximum of \$525.
7. Fees must be paid at the time the application is submitted.
8. Where a Section 28 permit approval is required in addition to a Planning Act application for the same activity, the Section 28 permit fee will be **discounted 50%**.

CONSERVATION AREA FEE SCHEDULE
Backus, Deer Creek, Haldimand, Norfolk and Waterford North

	2021 HST included	2022 HST included	2023 HST included	2024 HST included	2025 HST included	Draft 2026 HST included	Draft increase %
DAY USE FEES							
Walk-in (under 12 free)	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$7.00	\$7.00	0.00%
Vehicle	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$16.00	0.00%
Motorcycle	\$9.00	\$9.00	\$9.00	\$9.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	0.00%
Season Vehicle Day Pass	\$95.00	\$95.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$110.00	\$110.00	0.00%
Season Vehicle Pass Replacement	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	0.00%
Mini Bus	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$55.00	0.00%
Bus	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$120.00	0.00%
Operator Permit Fee - Annual	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$375.00	\$375.00	\$375.00	\$375.00	0.00%
Operator Customer Fee - per person	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	0.00%
Picnic Site					\$32.00	\$32.00	0.00%
CAMPING FEES							
<u>Per Night</u>							
Unserviced*	\$38.00	\$38.00	\$40.00	\$41.00	\$42.00	\$43.00	2.38%
With Hydro & Water 15 amp*	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$53.00	\$55.00	\$57.00	\$58.50	2.63%
With Hydro & Water 30 amp*	\$59.00	\$59.00	\$60.00	\$63.00	\$65.00	\$66.50	2.31%
With Hydro, Water & Sewer 15 amp*	\$61.00	\$61.00	\$64.00	\$66.00	\$69.00	\$70.50	2.17%
With Hydro, Water & Sewer 30 amp*	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$73.00	\$76.00	\$78.00	2.63%
*20% discount for overnight camping for seniors & the disabled. Must show senior or disability permit.							
<u>Cabin Rental Per Night</u>							
Cabin 900 A (Backus only)	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$65.00	\$70.00	\$73.00	\$75.00	2.74%
Cabin 901 D (Backus only)	\$105.00	\$105.00	\$110.00	\$115.00	\$120.00	\$120.00	0.00%
Cabin (New Backus)					\$0.00	\$150.00	0.00%
<u>Per Week</u>							
Unserviced	\$225.00	\$225.00	\$240.00	\$246.00	\$252.00	\$258.00	2.38%
With Hydro & Water 15 amp	\$305.00	\$305.00	\$318.00	\$330.00	\$342.00	\$351.00	2.63%
With Hydro & Water 30 amp	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$360.00	\$378.00	\$390.00	\$399.00	2.31%
With Hydro, Water & Sewer 15 amp	\$368.00	\$368.00	\$384.00	\$396.00	\$414.00	\$423.00	2.17%
With Hydro, Water & Sewer 30 amp	\$415.00	\$415.00	\$420.00	\$438.00	\$456.00	\$468.00	2.63%
<u>Cabin Rental Per Week</u>							
Cabin 900 A (Backus only)	\$360.00	\$360.00	\$360.00	\$385.00	\$400.00	\$412.50	3.13%
Cabin 901 D (Backus only)	\$630.00	\$630.00	\$630.00	\$635.00	\$660.00	\$660.00	0.00%
Cabin (New Backus)						\$825.00	0.00%
<u>Per Month</u>							
Unserviced	\$675.00	\$675.00	\$720.00	\$738.00	\$756.00	\$774.00	2.38%
With Hydro & Water 15 amp	\$915.00	\$915.00	\$954.00	\$990.00	\$1,026.00	\$1,053.00	2.63%
With Hydro & Water 30 amp	\$1,050.00	\$1,050.00	\$1,080.00	\$1,134.00	\$1,170.00	\$1,197.00	2.31%
With Hydro, Water & Sewer 15 amp	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00	\$1,152.00	\$1,188.00	\$1,242.00	\$1,269.00	2.17%
With Hydro, Water & Sewer 30 amp	\$1,240.00	\$1,240.00	\$1,260.00	\$1,314.00	\$1,368.00	\$1,404.00	2.63%
<u>Per Season</u>							
Unserviced	\$1,770.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$2,895.00	2.60%
With Hydro & Water 15 amp	\$2,520.00	\$2,570.00	\$2,623.50	\$2,722.50	\$2,821.50	\$3,290.00	2.25%
With Hydro & Water 30 amp	\$2,785.00	\$2,840.00	\$2,970.00	\$3,118.50	\$3,217.50	\$3,490.00	2.18%
With Hydro, Water & Sewer 15 amp	\$3,045.00	\$3,105.00	\$3,168.00	\$3,267.00	\$3,415.50	\$3,860.00	2.60%
With Hydro, Water & Sewer 30 amp	\$3,285.00	\$3,350.00	\$3,465.00	\$3,613.50	\$3,762.00	\$4,025.00	2.55%
Premium & 30 amp	\$3,360.00	\$3,430.00	\$3,565.00	\$3,740.00	\$3,925.00	\$4,310.00	0.00%
Premium Sewer & 30 amp	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75.00	0.00%
2nd Season Vehicle Day Pass	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$65.00	8.33%
Exterior Fridge (Seasonal)	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$325.00	\$335.00	\$335.00	\$335.00	0.00%
Seasonal Camper Late Payment Fee				\$75.00	\$75.00	\$75.00	0.00%

	2021 HST included	2022 HST included	2023 HST included	Draft 2024 HST included	Draft 2025 HST included	Draft 2026 HST included	Draft increase %
Group Camping							
Group Camping Tents Only							
Group Camping (per night)	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$65.00	\$65.00	0.00%
Group Camping (per person/night)	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$7.00	\$7.00	\$8.00	\$8.00	0.00%
Portable Toilet Rental					\$205.00	\$205.00	0.00%
OTHER FEES							
Reservation Fee - online	\$13.00	\$13.00	\$14.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$16.00	6.67%
Reservation Fee - by phone	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$17.50	16.67%
Cancellation/Change Fee	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$16.00	6.67%
2nd Vehicle Parking	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$13.00	\$13.00	\$13.00	\$16.00	23.08%
Pavilion	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$75.00	0.00%
Wood	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	0.00%
Kindling	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	0.00%
Ice	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$4.00	0.00%
Picnic Tables (per table per day)	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$7.50	25.00%
Bait / Worms	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$4.00	\$4.00	0.00%
Vendor permit	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	0.00%
Canoe/Kayak Rental - per hour - per 1/2 day (4 hours)	\$15.00 \$50.00	\$15.00 \$50.00	\$15.00 \$50.00	\$15.00 \$50.00	\$20.00 \$60.00	\$20.00 \$60.00	0.00% 0.00%
Boat/Trailer Storage - off site	\$375.00	\$375.00	\$375.00	\$375.00	\$375.00	\$375.00	0.00%
Winter Trailer Storage/camp site Winter Storage Late Fee (per day)	\$225.00 \$10.00	\$225.00 \$10.00	\$225.00 \$10.00	\$225.00 \$10.00	\$250.00 \$10.00	\$250.00 \$10.00	0.00% 0.00%
BACKUS HERITAGE CONSERVATION AREA							
Rentals							
Church Rental	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	-100.00%
Ed. Centre Rentals - 1/2 day	\$240.00	\$240.00	\$240.00	\$240.00	\$247.00	\$250.00	1.21%
- full day Auditorium or Classroom	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$412.00	\$425.00	3.16%
- add for 2nd room	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$75.00	50.00%
Photography							
Photography Fee - includes entry for 2 passenger vehicles	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	0.00%
Education Programming							
- full day** - 1/2 day**			\$560.84 \$280.42	\$583.62 \$291.81	\$606.97 \$303.48	\$625.18 \$312.59	3.00% 3.00%
**Maximum 40 students per class per day.							

LONG POINT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
CORPORATE SERVICES FEE SCHEDULE

	Draft 2026 before HST
CORPORATE SERVICES	
Hold Harmless Agreements for research or events Irrigation Access Permits within Conservation Authority owned properties	\$45.13 \$1,000.00

LONG POINT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
CONSERVATION LANDS – FORESTRY FEE SCHEDULE

	Draft 2026 before HST
FORESTRY	
Consultation Service per hour	\$125.00

LONG POINT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
CONSERVATION LANDS – LEE BROWN MARSH FEE SCHEDULE

	Draft 2026 before HST
LEE BROWN MARSH	
<u>Goose Relocation</u>	
- Per Canada goose	\$6.20
<u>Hunting Fees</u>	
1-Day Field Hunt , 1 person	\$53.10
1-Day (midweek) Marsh Hunt, 1 person	\$518.89
1-Day (midweek) Marsh Hunt, 4 people	\$1,770.32
3-Day Marsh Hunt for 4 people	\$4,425.78

LONG POINT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
CONSERVATION LANDS – LANDS AND WATERS FEE SCHEDULE

	Draft 2026 before HST
LANDS AND WATERS	
<u>Tree Planting Program - Forest Ontario Sponsored</u>	
Full Service (Seedling and Planting) per tree ¹	\$0.75
<u>Private Landowner Tree Planting Program</u>	
Land Owner Cost per tree ²	\$1.00 - \$2.39
Full Service (Seedling and Planting) per tree ³	\$1.85 - \$3.10
Rental of Tree Planter per day for trees purchased from the Conservation Authority	\$75.00
<u>Restoration Program</u>	
Erosion Control - Landowner Plans	\$350.00
<i>¹Pricing subject to change without notice. Subject to approval and availability. Minimum 500 seedlings must be planted.</i>	
<i>²Pricing subject to change without notice. Subject to availability. Minimum 150 seedlings/species.</i>	
<i>³Pricing subject to change without notice. Subject to availability. Minimum 5 acres and 500 seedlings.</i>	



LONG POINT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY STAFF REPORT

Date: December 29, 2025

File: 1.1.1/1.4.1

To: LPRCA Board of Directors

From: General Manager, LPRCA

Re: Members' Per Diems & Mileage Rate

Recommendation:

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors approves increasing the Chair's Honorarium to \$2,924, the Vice-chair's Honorarium to \$1,170, the Member's meeting per diems to \$117, and the mileage rate to \$0.66 per kilometre effective January 1, 2026.

Links to Strategic Plan:

Strategic Direction #4 – Organizational Excellence

Background:

The LPRCA Administrative Policy, effective June 4th, 2024, states:

15. Remuneration of Members

The Authority shall establish a per-diem rate from time to time to be paid to Members for attendance at General Meetings and Advisory Board or Committee meetings, and at such other business functions as may be from time to time requested by the Chair, through the Secretary-Treasurer. In addition, an honorarium may be approved by the Authority for the Chair and Vice-chair(s) as compensation for their additional responsibilities. A single per-diem will be paid for attendance at more than one meeting if they occur consecutively on the same day.

The Authority shall reimburse Members' reasonable travel expenses incurred for the purpose of attending meetings and/or functions on behalf of the Authority. A per-kilometre rate to be paid for use of a personal vehicle shall be approved by Resolution of the General Membership from time-to-time. Requests for such reimbursements shall be submitted within a timely fashion and shall be consistent with Canada Revenue Agency(CRA) guidelines.

The last increase to LPRCA Board per diem rates was effective January 1st, 2025. The approved 2025 increases in the Per Diem allowance went from \$111 to \$115, the Chair's Honorarium from \$2,783 to \$2,866, and the Vice-chair's Honorarium from \$1,113 to \$1,146 annually. The 2026 increase of Director fees is calculated based on the CPI of 2% and is the same as the increase to the employee pay grid in the 2026 budget.

The current mileage rate is \$0.64 per kilometre. The proposed travel expense rate in the 2026 budget is \$0.66 per kilometre. The maximum rate for 2026 allowed by CRA is \$0.74 per kilometre for the first 5,000 kilometres driven and then \$0.68 per kilometer after that. The mileage rates also apply to staff in the event they are required to use their personal vehicle for Authority business.

Financial Implications

The draft 2026 Budget includes \$34,194 for Directors fee's and travel expense which includes the proposed increase.

Prepared by:

Aaron LeDuc

Aaron LeDuc, CPA, CGA
Manager of Corporate Services

Approved and submitted by:

Judy Maxwell

Judy Maxwell, CPA, CGA
General Manager



LONG POINT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY STAFF REPORT

Date: December 22, 2025

File: 1.4.1

To: Chair and Members,
LPRCA Board of Directors

From: General Manager/Secretary Treasurer

Re: 2026 LPRCA Budget Vote

Recommendation:

That the LPRCA Board of Directors approves the following recommendations regarding LPRCA's 2026 Operating and Capital budgets;

1. That the 2026 Operating Budget in the total amount of \$6,370,228 and requiring a Municipal Levy- Operating of \$2,238,181 be approved as set out in Attachment 1;
2. That the 2026 Capital Budget in the total amount of \$1,199,455 requiring a General Municipal Levy - Capital of \$157,000 and a Municipal Special Levy – Capital of \$260,000 for Norfolk County be approved as set out in Attachment 2;
3. That the proposed 2026 Consolidated Budget in the total amount of \$7,569,683 and requiring a Municipal Levy – Consolidated of \$2,655,181 be approved as set out in Attachment 2.
4. That the proposed 2026 Municipal Levy Apportionment by CVA % be approved as set out in Attachment 3.

Links to Strategic Plan:

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 to present the Draft 2026 LPRCA Budget to the membership as prescribed in the LPRCA Administrative By-Law (Resolution: A-43/20) and in compliance with Ontario Regulation 402/22, made under the *Conservation Authorities Act*; Budget and Apportionment. O. Reg. 402/22 S. 21-24 Final Budget has been included at the end of this report,

Background:

The Authority held the 2026 Draft Budget meeting on November 13th, 2025 to review and discuss the proposed budget plan. The Board of Directors recommended the 2026 LPRCA Draft Budget to be circulated to member municipalities for 30-day review and comment at the meeting held November 13th, 2025. The 30-day notice was sent out to our member

municipalities on November 17, 2025 requesting any comments to be forwarded to the Authority by December 19th, 2025. The 30-day notice included notification of the Final 2026 Budget vote to take place on Wednesday January 7th, 2026.

Discussion:

On December 8th, 2025 the Authority received comments from the Municipality of Bayham requesting a 0% increase to their portion of the municipal levy request which was \$725 or 0.68% (Attachment # 1). The Authority did not receive any other comments or feedback from member municipalities.

In accordance with *Conservation Authorities Act Ontario Regulation 402/22 – Budget and Apportionment*: the 2026 LPRCA Budget vote will be calculated by weighted vote.

The complete [**LPRCA 2026 Draft Budget**](#) Package can be found on our website. The chart below provides the weighted vote for each member of the Board.

2026 Budget/Municipal Levy Recorded Vote

Member	Municipality/Group	Weight
Ed Ketchabaw	Municipality of Bayham	4.52
Robert Chambers	County of Brant	7.49
Shelley Ann Bentley	Haldimand County	7.35
Debera McKeen	Haldimand County	7.35
Ed Ketchabaw	Township of Malahide	0.70
Doug Brunton	Norfolk County	12.50
Michael Columbus	Norfolk County	12.50
Tom Masschaele	Norfolk County	12.50
Chris Van Paassen	Norfolk County	12.50
Jim Palmer	Township of Norwich	7.53
Peter Ypma	Township of South-West Oxford	7.53
Dave Beres	Town of Tillsonburg	7.53

Financial Implications:

N/A

Prepared by:

Aaron LeDuc

Aaron LeDuc, CPA, CGA
Manager of Corporate Services

Approved and submitted by:

Judy Maxwell

Judy Maxwell, CPA, CGA
General Manager

ONTARIO REGULATION 402/22

made under the

**CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES ACT
BUDGET AND APPORTIONMENT**

FINAL BUDGET

Final budget

21. (1) An authority shall prepare a final budget as part of the final phase of the budgetary process.

(2) The final budget shall meet all the requirements of a draft budget under subsection 13 (2), subject to subsection (3).

(3) The amounts in the final budget shall reflect the matters agreed to during consultations under section 15 and the amounts voted on during a meeting held under section 16.

Meeting

22. An authority shall hold a meeting of its members to approve the final budget.

Vote

23. (1) The vote to approve the final budget shall be carried by a majority of votes.

(2) Despite subsection (1), the vote to approve the final budget shall be carried by a weighted majority in accordance with section 19 if required to do so by the authority's by-laws.

(3) A vote held to approve the final budget shall be recorded.

Providing copies and posting of budget

24. Promptly after the final budget is approved by participating municipalities, the authority shall end the budgetary process for a given year by,

(a) providing a copy of the final budget to the Minister and to each of the authority's participating municipalities and specified municipalities; and

(b) making a copy of the final budget available to the public by posting it on the section of the authority's website entitled "Governance" and by any other means the authority considers appropriate.

Municipality of

BAYHAM

A: P.O. Box 160, 56169 Heritage Line
Stratfordville, ON N0J 1Y0

T: 519-866-5521

F: 519-866-3884

E: bayham@bayham.on.ca

W: www.bayham.on.ca



December 8, 2025

Via email: jking@lprca.on.ca

Re: Long Point Region Conservation Authority 2026 Draft Budget

Council passed the following resolution at the December 4, 2025 Regular Meeting of Council:

Moved by: Councillor Froese

Seconded by: Councillor Emerson

THAT the correspondence from the Long Point Region Conservation Authority re 2026 Draft Budget be received for information;

AND THAT the Municipality of Bayham requests a 0% increase.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Melliott".

Meagan Elliott

Clerk

melliott@bayham.on.ca

Long Point Region Conservation Authority

Attachment 1

2026 DRAFT Consolidated Operating Budget

	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Sept 30 YTD	2025 Budget	2026 Draft Budget	2026 Change from 2025 Budget	Contribution (to) from Reserves \$	Increase to Levy \$
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	%	
Program:								
Watershed Planning and Technical Services	473,215	481,055	324,180	506,160	497,990	(8,170)	(1.6%)	-
Watershed Flood Control Services	373,087	395,486	130,837	368,890	386,914	18,024	4.9%	-
Healthy Watershed Services	273,472	285,601	189,848	229,726	218,079	(11,647)	(5.1%)	-
Conservation Authority Lands	418,652	507,883	377,058	738,447	782,315	43,868	5.9%	5,765
Communication and Marketing Services	68,768	97,510	74,595	122,411	125,663	3,252	2.7%	-
Backus Heritage and Education Services	317,138	310,351	211,866	334,746	328,803	(5,943)	(1.8%)	-
Conservation Parks Management Services	1,625,798	1,725,711	1,381,791	1,713,973	1,864,790	150,817	8.8%	-
Public Forest Land Management Services	344,037	358,754	265,454	319,295	326,511	7,216	2.3%	2,511
Private Forest Land Management Services	116,074	92,887	67,242	147,394	159,603	12,210	8.3%	-
Maintenance Operations Services	454,620	485,362	274,888	407,898	451,462	43,564	10.7%	-
Corporate Services	1,241,423	1,282,135	874,974	1,193,325	1,228,097	34,772	2.9%	136,660
Total Program Expenditures	5,706,284	6,022,736	4,172,733	6,082,265	6,370,228	287,963	4.7%	144,936
Objects of Expenses:								
Staff Expenses	3,086,063	3,467,652	2,511,069	3,898,139	4,148,928	250,789	6.4%	
Staff Related Expenses	41,698	32,834	26,524	49,775	44,925	(4,850)	(9.7%)	
Materials and Supplies	330,194	314,802	300,628	360,888	388,878	27,989	7.8%	
Purchased Services	1,855,278	1,777,659	1,227,625	1,647,616	1,662,366	14,750	0.9%	
Equipment	43,680	45,949	48,639	55,725	54,225	(1,500)	(2.7%)	
Other	66,652	63,299	58,248	70,122	70,906	784	1.1%	
Amortization	282,719	320,540	-	-	-	-	0.0%	
Total Expenditures	5,706,284	6,022,736	4,172,733	6,082,265	6,370,228	287,963	4.7%	
Sources of Revenue:								
Municipal Levy - Operating	2,164,617	2,174,447	1,678,261	2,237,681	2,238,181	500	0.02%	
Provincial Funding	73,440	38,861	10,668	4,500	4,500	-	0.0%	
MNR Grant	35,229	35,229	35,229	35,229	35,229	-	0.0%	
MNR WECl & Municipal Funding	56,387	69,971	-	-	-	-	0.0%	
Federal Funding	42,758	8,295	-	10,585	25,559	14,974	141.5%	
User Fees	3,306,904	3,442,048	3,293,151	3,369,136	3,465,785	96,649	2.9%	
Community Support	797,313	792,905	807,157	642,544	613,038	(29,506)	(4.6%)	
Interest on Investments	23,813	33,769	-	-	-	-	0.0%	
Land Donation	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	
Gain on Sale of Assets	11,271	-	15,328	-	-	-	0.0%	
Contribution from (to) Reserves	(805,450)	(572,790)	-	5,346	144,936	139,590	2,611.0%	
Transfer from/(to) Current Year Surplus	-	-	-	0	0	(0)	0.0%	
Total Revenue	5,706,284	6,022,736	5,839,794	6,305,020	6,527,228	222,207	3.5%	
Surplus - current year	-	-	1,667,061	222,755	157,000	(65,755)	(29.5%)	

Attachment 2

Long Point Region Conservation Authority 2026 DRAFT Consolidated Budget Summary

	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Sept 30 YTD	2025 Budget	2026 Budget	2026 Change from 2025 Budget	% of Approved Budget
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	%	
Total Operating Expenditures	5,706,284	6,022,736	4,172,733	6,082,265	6,370,228	287,963	4.7%
Total Capital Expenditures *	349,326	349,326	170,336	808,864	1,199,455	390,591	48.3%
Total Expenditures	6,055,610	6,372,062	4,343,069	6,891,129	7,569,683	678,554	9.85%
							100.0%
<u>SOURCES OF REVENUE</u>							
Municipal Levy - Operating	2,164,617	2,174,447	1,678,261	2,237,681	2,238,181	500	0.02%
Municipal Levy - Capital	349,326	349,326	368,550	157,500	157,000	(500)	-0.32%
Municipal Levy - Total	2,513,943	2,523,773	2,046,811	2,395,181	2,395,181	0	0.00%
							31.64%
Municipal Levy - Special Norfolk	-	-	-	100,000	260,000	160,000	160.00%
Total Municipal Levy	2,513,943	2,523,773	2,046,811	2,495,181	2,655,181	160,000	6.41%
							35.08%
Provincial Funding	73,440	38,861	10,668	4,500	4,500	-	0.0%
MNR Grant	35,229	35,229	35,229	35,229	35,229	-	0.0%
MNR WECL & Municipal Funding	56,387	69,971	-	147,500	135,000	(12,500)	0.0%
Federal Funding	42,758	8,295	-	10,585	25,559	14,974	141.5%
User Fees	3,306,904	3,442,048	3,293,151	3,369,136	3,465,785	96,649	2.9%
Community Support	797,313	792,905	807,157	642,544	613,038	(29,506)	(4.6%)
Interest on Investments	23,813	33,769	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Land Donation	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Gain on Sale of Assets	11,271	-	15,328	15,328	-	(15,328)	0.0%
Contribution from(to) Reserves	(805,450)	(572,790)	-	186,455	635,391	448,936	240.8%
TOTAL REVENUE	6,055,610	6,372,062	6,208,344	6,906,457	7,569,683	663,226	9.60%
							100.0%

* The Capital Expenditures in the 2026 Draft Budget are proposed to be funded by Municipal Levy of \$157,000.

**Special Levy of \$260,000 to Norfolk County.

5 Year Summary by Municipality of Levy Apportioned by CVA %

Attachment 3

LPRCA													
Draft Budget Operating Levy \$ 2,238,181				Draft Budget Capital Levy \$157,000				Draft Budget Total Levy \$2,395,181					
Municipal Levy - Operating						Municipal Levy - Capital				Municipal Levy - Combined			
Municipality	Year	Amount of Levy Share	% of Total Levy*	\$ Increase Year over Year	% Increase Year over Year	Amount of Levy Share	% of Total Levy*	\$ Increase Year over Year	% Increase Year over Year	Amount of Levy Share	% of Total Levy*	\$ Increase Year over Year	% Increase Year over Year
Haldimand County	2022	\$245,330	14.23%	\$5,239	2.25%	\$54,309	14.23%	\$938	1.72%	\$299,638	14.23%	\$6,177	2.15%
	2023	\$302,661	14.42%	\$57,331	23.37%	\$21,624	14.42%	(\$32,685)	-60.18%	\$324,284	14.42%	\$24,646	8.23%
	2024	\$308,299	14.37%	\$5,638	1.86%	\$27,144	14.37%	\$5,520	25.53%	\$335,443	14.37%	\$11,159	3.44%
	2025	\$324,627	14.51%	\$16,328	5.30%	\$22,849	14.51%	(\$4,295)	-15.82%	\$347,476	14.51%	\$12,034	3.59%
	2026	\$326,076	14.57%	\$1,449	0.45%	\$22,873	14.57%	\$24	0.11%	\$348,949	14.57%	\$1,473	0.42%
Norfolk County	2022	\$901,067	52.26%	\$18,883	2.18%	\$199,470	52.26%	\$3,364	1.65%	\$1,100,537	52.26%	\$22,247	2.08%
	2023	\$1,088,124	51.83%	\$187,057	20.76%	\$77,741	51.83%	(\$121,729)	-61.03%	\$1,165,865	51.83%	\$65,328	5.94%
	2024	\$1,102,753	51.39%	\$14,629	1.34%	\$97,091	51.39%	\$19,350	24.89%	\$1,199,844	51.39%	\$33,978	2.91%
	2025	\$1,136,959	50.81%	\$34,206	3.10%	\$80,025	50.81%	(\$17,066)	-17.58%	\$1,216,984	50.81%	\$17,140	1.43%
	2026	\$1,129,071	50.45%	(\$7,887)	-0.69%	\$79,200	50.45%	(\$825)	-1.03%	\$1,208,271	50.45%	(\$8,712)	-0.72%
Oxford County*	2022	\$368,308	21.36%	\$7,699	2.20%	\$81,533	21.36%	\$1,371	1.67%	\$449,841	21.36%	\$9,070	2.10%
	2023	\$451,909	21.52%	\$83,601	22.70%	\$32,287	21.52%	(\$49,246)	-60.40%	\$484,196	21.52%	\$34,355	7.64%
	2024	\$469,365	21.87%	\$17,456	3.86%	\$41,325	21.87%	\$9,038	27.99%	\$510,690	21.87%	\$26,494	5.47%
	2025	\$497,571	22.24%	\$28,207	6.01%	\$35,022	22.24%	(\$6,303)	-15.25%	\$532,593	22.24%	\$21,904	4.29%
	2026	\$500,743	22.37%	\$3,172	0.64%	\$35,125	22.37%	\$104	0.30%	\$535,868	22.37%	\$3,275	0.61%
Brant County	2022	\$119,089	6.91%	\$4,159	3.78%	\$26,363	6.91%	\$814	3.15%	\$145,452	6.91%	\$4,974	3.66%
	2023	\$147,095	7.01%	\$28,006	23.52%	\$10,509	7.01%	(\$15,854)	-60.14%	\$157,605	7.01%	\$12,153	8.36%
	2024	\$152,855	7.12%	\$5,760	3.92%	\$13,458	7.12%	\$2,949	28.06%	\$166,313	7.12%	\$8,709	5.53%
	2025	\$162,960	7.28%	\$10,104	6.61%	\$11,470	7.28%	(\$1,988)	-14.77%	\$174,429	7.28%	\$8,116	4.88%
	2026	\$166,170	7.42%	\$3,210	1.97%	\$11,656	7.42%	\$186	1.62%	\$177,826	7.42%	\$3,396	1.95%
Bayham Municipality	2022	\$77,927	4.52%	\$1,256	1.68%	\$17,251	4.52%	\$207	1.18%	\$95,177	4.52%	\$1,463	1.58%
	2023	\$94,466	4.50%	\$16,539	21.22%	\$6,749	4.50%	(\$10,502)	-59.78%	\$101,215	4.50%	\$6,038	6.34%
	2024	\$97,190	4.53%	\$2,724	2.88%	\$8,557	4.53%	\$1,808	10.61%	\$105,747	4.53%	\$4,532	4.48%
	2025	\$99,651	4.45%	\$2,461	2.53%	\$7,014	4.45%	(\$1,543)	-8.94%	\$106,665	4.45%	\$918	0.87%
	2026	\$100,351	4.48%	\$700	0.70%	\$7,039	4.48%	\$25	0.37%	\$107,390	4.48%	\$725	0.68%
Malahide Township	2022	\$12,538	0.74%	\$594	5.00%	\$2,775	0.74%	(\$17)	-0.62%	\$15,313	0.74%	\$576	3.93%
	2023	\$15,255	0.73%	\$79	0.66%	\$1,090	0.73%	\$6	0.21%	\$16,345	0.73%	\$84	0.58%
	2024	\$15,502	0.73%	\$2,717	21.67%	\$1,365	0.73%	(\$1,686)	-60.73%	\$16,867	0.73%	\$1,032	7.04%
	2025	\$15,913	0.72%	\$247	1.62%	\$1,120	0.72%	\$275	25.23%	\$17,033	0.72%	\$522	3.43%
	2026	\$15,770	0.70%	(\$144)	-0.90%	\$1,106	0.70%	(\$14)	-1.24%	\$16,876	0.70%	(\$158)	-0.96%
	2026	<u>\$2,238,181</u>		<u>\$500</u>	0.02%	<u>\$157,000</u>		<u>(\$500)</u>	-0.32%	<u>\$2,395,181</u>		<u>\$0</u>	0.00%

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LONG POINT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY STAFF REPORT

Date: January 5th, 2026

File: 1.3.7.1

To: Chair and Members,
LPRCA Board of Directors

From: General Manager, LPRCA

Re: Timber Tender LP-367-26 – Harris Floyd – Block #4

Recommendation:

THAT the LPRCA Board of Directors accepts the tender submitted by Leonard Pilkey for marked standing timber at the Harris Floyd Tract (Block #4) – LP-367-26 for a total tendered price of \$147,693.00.

Strategic Direction:

Strategic Direction #2 – Deliver Exceptional Services and Experiences
Strategic Direction #4 – Organizational Excellence

Background:

As part of the ongoing forestry program of the LPRCA, forestry staff prepared and the Board of Directors approved, a prescription/operating plan for the Harris Floyd Tract (Block #4). Forestry staff completed the marking in the field and a tender was prepared and mailed to various sawmills and timber buyers. A map is attached to reference the location of the Harris Floyd Tract (Block #4).

Three tenders were received and staff is recommending the bid from Leonard Pilkey be accepted for LP-367-26 (Block #4).

Tender Results – LP-367-26 (Block #4):

1) Bamburg Sawmill Ltd.	\$97,150.00
2) Townsend Lumber Inc.	\$109,625.00
3) Leonard Pilkey	\$147,693.00

The bid submitted by Leonard Pilkey was within the expected bid range and LPRCA has successfully dealt with this watershed-based company previously.

Budget Implications:

Funds are to be applied towards the 2026 Forestry Operations Budget that has an anticipated \$310,000 in revenues. To date, \$147,693.00 has been generated which includes the Harris Floyd Tract (Block #4).

Prepared by:

Debbie Thain

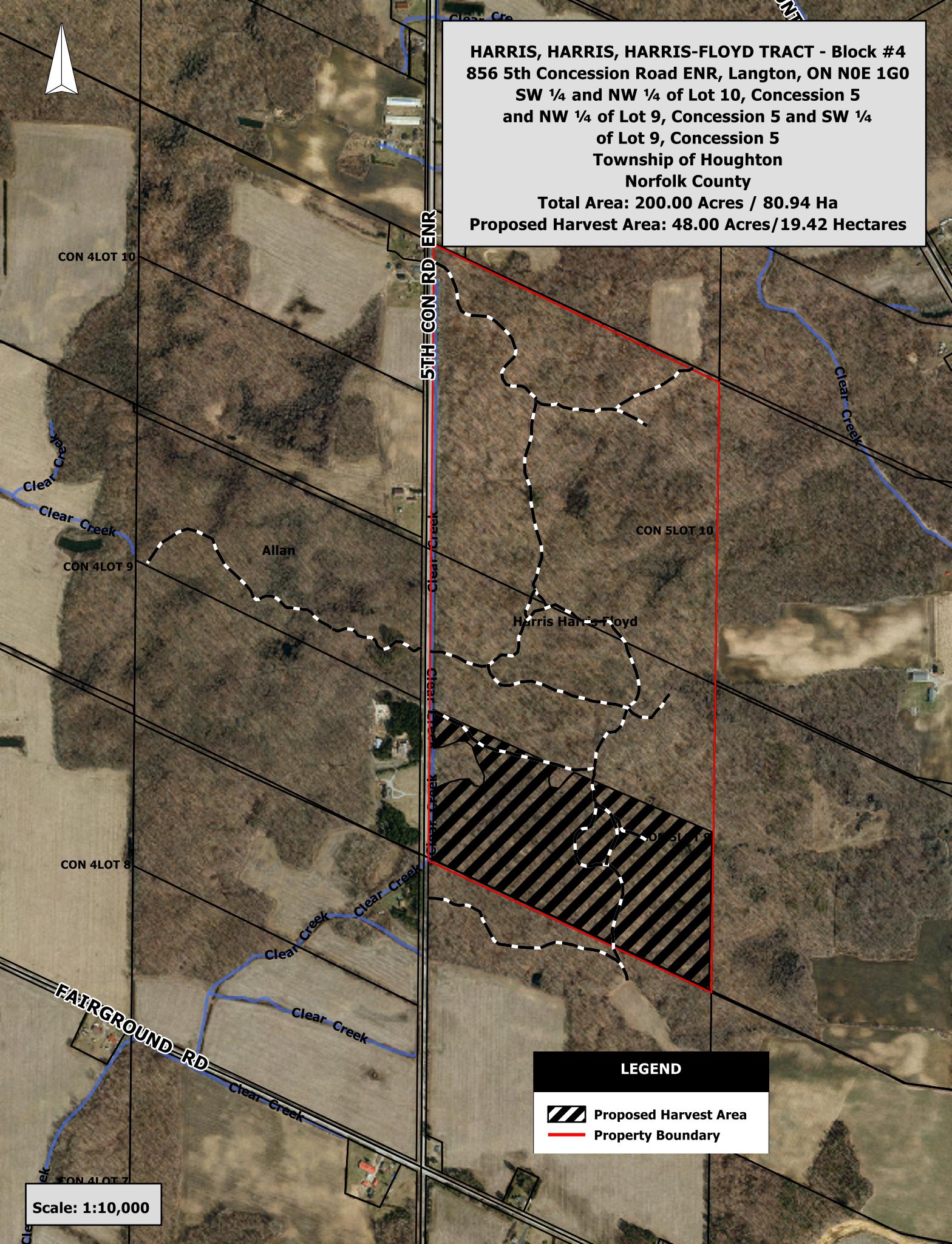
Debbie Thain
Forestry Supervisor

Approved & Submitted by:

Judy Maxwell

Judy Maxwell
General Manager

HARRIS, HARRIS, HARRIS-FLOYD TRACT - Block #4
856 5th Concession Road ENR, Langton, ON N0E 1G0
SW 1/4 and NW 1/4 of Lot 10, Concession 5
and NW 1/4 of Lot 9, Concession 5 and SW 1/4
of Lot 9, Concession 5
Township of Houghton
Norfolk County
Total Area: 200.00 Acres / 80.94 Ha
Proposed Harvest Area: 48.00 Acres/19.42 Hectares



LEGEND

- Proposed Harvest Area
- Property Boundary