



100 John West Way
Aurora, Ontario
L4G 6J1
(905) 727-3123
aurora.ca

Town of Aurora
Memorandum
Councillor's Office

Re: Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board
Meeting Highlights of September 25, 2020

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Councillor Wendy Gaertner

Date: November 24, 2020

Recommendations

- 1. That Council receive the correspondence for information.**

Board Meeting Highlights

September 25, 2020

Announcements:

Chair Emmerson advised that the Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation held its 'Roughin it for a Reason' fundraising camp out last night. Vice Chair Ferragine told how he and his cousin Frank Ferragine roughed it by camping in his backyard raising funds. All proceeds raised went to the Lake Simcoe conservation Foundation for a new Education Centre at Scanlon Creek Conservation Area.

Deputations:

a) **Mr. Kent Elson, Elson Advocacy**

Mayor Quirk declared a conflict of interest in this matter and did not participate due to the Town of Georgina's recent vote against the LSRCA permit issued regarding Maple Lake Estates. Mr. Elson addressed Board members to share his thoughts regarding a Section 28 permit recently issued and subsequently surrendered regarding Maple Lake Estates. He addressed three key issues outlined in his letters of August 11th and September 17th, which were included in the agenda.

b) **Mr. Colin Dobell, ClearWater Farm**

Mr. Dobell shared his presentation regarding a demonstration project at the ClearWater Farm in Georgina focused on water harvesting to reduce potable water consumption use in irrigation, in which he was seeking LSRCA support in their application to the Green Municipal Fund. He noted that the project has the required municipal support for their application. Mr. Dobell described the project components as being able to connect site to municipal water/sewer to handle human water needs, to harvest water from roofs (barn, garage, greenhouses) to be stored in a cistern, and then an anaerobic biodigester imports water through pure organic food waste with run-off and liquid digestate is used as irrigation/nutrient source for agriculture. To view this presentation, please click this link: [ClearWater Farm Proposal for LSRCA](#)

Presentations:

a) Chemical Contaminants Report

Manager, Environmental Science and Monitoring, David Lembcke, provided a presentation on staff's work on chemical contaminants, sharing some resources and findings on this strategic plan goal to identify existing and emerging contaminants. Existing contaminants are described as contaminants we know and can identify and examine, and emerging being those in the research realm where we have no guidelines or a poor understanding of its impacts. Staff have developed a very useful chemical contaminants webpage, which displays a description of a number of groups of contaminants, as well as research done. For more information on chemical contaminants, please contact David Lembcke at d.lembcke@lsrca.on.ca. To view this webpage, please click this link: www.lsrca.on.ca/watershed-health/chemical-contaminants. To view this presentation, please click this link: [Chemical Contaminants in the Lake Simcoe Watershed](#).

b) LSRCA Watershed Restoration Services Department Updates

Manager, Watershed Restoration Services, Christa Sharp and Restoration Project Manager, Brook Piotrowski provided a presentation on some of the projects and accomplishments of the Watershed Restoration Department for 2020, noting that 25 project have been completed and 80 are in progress. Projects located across the watershed, including agricultural, natural heritage and stormwater projects. She highlighted the Goodyear Farm project in the Township of Beaverton, which began in 2018 to address runoff to Lake Simcoe. A number of best management practices were identified, and some have been implemented. This project is ongoing with a number of restoration activities still to come in the fall of 2020 and spring of 2021.

Another project highlighted was a retrofit project in the City of Barrie in the Victoria Woods parking lot, which was very muddy and had many potholes. This project was a great opportunity for a low impact development feature, where the City resurfaced it with asphalt and run-off was re-directed the hard surface area to a bioretention swale. Many benefits we realized on this project, including stormwater being infiltrated to the low impact development feature, a reduction in phosphorus, and an improvement to water quality and reduction to peak flows.

To view this presentation, please click this link: [Watershed Restoration Services update](#). For more information on watershed restoration services, please contact Christa Sharp at c.sharp@lsrca.on.ca.

Correspondence and Staff Reports:

Correspondence

The Board received the following correspondence:

- a) July 29, 2020 letter from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry regarding the Pefferlaw Dam ownership;
- b) August 11, 2020 letter from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry regarding Conservation Ontario's Client Service and Streamlining Initiative; and
- c) September 10, 2020 letter from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Parks regarding an amendment to the Minister's Direction for Conservation Authorities during the COVID-19 Outbreak.

Proposal Call for External Audit Services

The Board received Staff Report No. 40-20-BOD regarding Proposal Call for External Audit Services. The Board approved staff's recommendation to appoint BDO Canada LLP to provide external audit services for the period 2020 to 2024 inclusive, subject to annual review, at an annual fee of \$18,500 for 2020, \$19,000 for 2021, \$19,500 for 2022, \$20,000 for 2023 and \$20,500 for 2024.

For more information or to see the full agenda package, visit [LSRCA's Board of Directors' webpage](#).