



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 April 22, 2022

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Councillor Wendy Gaertner

Date: July 5, 2022

Recommendation

1. That the memorandum regarding Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board Meeting Highlights of April 22, 2022, be received for information.

Attachments

Attachment 1 – Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board Meeting Highlights of April 22, 2022

Board Meeting Highlights

April 22, 2022

Announcements:

- a) Chair Emmerson offered condolences to City of Kawartha Lakes Board member Councillor Emmett Yeo and his family on the loss of his father.
- b) CAO Rob Baldwin updated the Board that staff returned to the physical offices two days per week on April 19th, and he reminded the Board that the Newmarket Administrative offices will now be open to the public each week from Tuesday to Thursday.
- c) CAO Rob Baldwin advised that earlier in the week the Provincial government announced \$24M in capital funding towards the Holland Marsh Treatment Facility, which along with the Federal government's commitment of \$16M back in 2020, brings total funds towards this project to \$40M for the Municipal Streamline Class Environmental Assessment, design and capital construction. CAO Baldwin was pleased to attend the announcement with Minister Piccini, Minister Mulroney, and MPP Khanjin, as well as local representatives. More details will be brought to the Board as available.
- d) CAO Rob Baldwin was pleased to announce that he has been appointed to the Lake Simcoe Coordinating Committee.
- e) CAO Rob Baldwin announced that at Conservation Ontario's recently held Annual General Meeting Alan Revill of Catarqui Conservation was appointed as Chair, and Alan Dale of Upper Thames Conservation Authority was appointed Vice Chair. He also noted that along with himself, Linda Laliberte of Ganaraska and Samantha Lawson of Grand River were appointed as Board members.
- f) CAO Rob Baldwin reminded Board members of a webinar being hosted by MECP on May 2nd regarding Programs and Services of the Conservation Authorities Act changes.
- g) CAO Rob Baldwin noted that the Phase 2 Regulations of the Conservation Authorities Act were posted on the Environmental Registry of Ontario, and the Conservation Authorities Working Group is now taking a break until after the Provincial election.
- h) General Manager, Planning, Development and Restoration, Glenn MacMillan, reported that a very successful meeting was recently held with the BILD. The result of which will be a series of webinars, the first one being held on June 8th regarding hydrogeologic submissions.
- i) Foundation Executive Director, Cheryl Taylor, was pleased to update that the Foundation's Annual Dinner is sold out with 366 guests expected. She also noted that the 4th Annual Golf

Tournament is being held on August 22nd at the Nest at Friday Harbour. More information on these events can be found at [Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation](#)

- j) Manager, Forestry and Greenspace Services, Phil Davies, provided an update on the public webinar held on April 20th on the spongy moth. The webinar was well attended and covered the life cycle and management options. The recorded webinar has been posted on the Conservation Authorities' website: [Spongy Moth webinar](#)

Presentations:

a) 2021 Draft Audited Financial Statements

BDO Canada LLP Auditor Adam Delle Cese provided a high-level overview of the Conservation Authority's 2021 audit process and results, noting that the audit is substantially complete aside from a couple of items; those being approval of the audited financial statements by the Board of Directors, and receipt of the signed representation letter, both expected to be completed after the meeting with no changes expected. He noted a risk base audit approach is taken and significant risk areas are identified; namely, management override of controls and revenue recognition as it relates to grants and special levy. He also noted these two areas are significant to all organizations and was pleased to note there were no issues noted during these tests. Internal control tests found no control deficiencies and no adjusted or unadjusted differences. Accordingly, he advised there are no communications needing the Board's attention. He reviewed the audit process and noted that some changes are coming for the 2022 audit around testing. In closing, he advised that BDO Canada LLP is independent of the Conservation Authority as required, and BDO did conduct an audit of the financial statements of the Conservation Authority. It is their opinion that the financial statements present fairly and are in accordance with Public Sector Accounting Standards.

b) Land Securement Initiative Update, Town of Georgina

General Manager, Conservation Lands, Brian Kemp, provided an overview of the recent land securement in the Town of Georgina, noting that the Conservation Authority is very pleased to have this property transferred to its ownership and care. The property is approximately 890 acres consisting of wetlands, woodlands, York Region Greenland and agricultural lands. The lands are situated adjacent to the Arnold C. Matthews Nature Reserve, which are lands protected through a conservation easement held by the Conservation Authority, bringing the total protected lands in this area to over 1,110 acres. He advised the lands are subject to a Minister's Zoning Order that removes the registered plan of subdivision and replaces it with Environmental Protection Area zoning. GM Kemp shared some photos taken by staff who have walked the property. Next steps include closing off the property to trespassers so that staff may conduct site visits and gain a better understanding of the property's natural features. Staff are compiling data for submission to the Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program and will begin

discussions with Regional and local municipalities for potential tax relief and exemption. Staff are seeking funding through the Conservation Authority's Ecological Offsetting Program and the Canada Nature Fund as identified in the accompanying staff report. Staff will be reviewing restoration opportunities for the development of a short-term management plan, as well as a long-term Master Plan, which will include the development of a community stakeholders' committee. To view this presentation, please click this link: [Newly Acquired Lands, Town of Georgina](#)

Correspondence and Staff Reports:

Correspondence

The Board received the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's April 7, 2022 letter to the Federal Minister of Finance, the Honourable Chrystia Freeland, regarding funding for Lake Simcoe.

Technical Guidelines for Stormwater Management Submissions

The Board received Staff Report No. 16-22-BOD regarding updates to the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's Technical Guidelines for Stormwater Management Submissions and approved the revised Technical Guidelines for Stormwater Management Submissions effective immediately.

2022 Provincial Funding Agreements Summary - Lake Simcoe Protection Plan

The Board received Staff Report No. 17-22-BOD regarding recently secured Provincial funding in support of the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan.

2022 Conservation Awards Program and Ceremony

The Board received Staff Report No. 18-22-BOD regarding the 2022 Conservation Awards.

Confidential Human Resources Matter

The Board received Confidential Staff Report No. 19-22-BOD regarding a confidential human resources matter.

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