

NOTICE TO

CLOCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Please find enclosed the **agenda** and supporting documents for the **CLOCA Board of Directors Meeting** on **Tuesday, September 16, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.** This meeting will be a **Hybrid meeting**. Members can join either virtual through TEAMS or attend in-person at the Authority's Administrative Office - 100 Whiting Avenue, Oshawa

The list below outlines upcoming meetings and events for your information.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Tuesday, September 16/25	5:00 p.m.	CLOCA Board of Directors Meeting	Hybrid Meeting
Thursday, September 25/25	10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	Durham Children's Watershed Festival Open House	Camp Samac 275 Conlin Road East, Oshawa
Saturday, October 18/25	10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Miyawaki Forest/Maple Leaf Trail Planting	Heber Down CA 5000 Cochrane Street, Whitby
Tuesday, October 21/25	5:00 p.m.	CLOCA Board of Directors Meeting	Hybrid Meeting
Tuesday, November 18/25	5:00 p.m.	CLOCA Board of Directors Meeting	Hybrid Meeting
Tuesday, December 16/25	5:00 p.m.	CLOCA Board of Directors Meeting	Hybrid Meeting

LATEST NEWS

Check Out our website! www.cloca.com Discover your local Conservation Area.

"Healthy Watersheds for Today and Tomorrow"

CENTRAL LAKE ONTARIO CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

A G E N D A

AUTHORITY MEETING

Tuesday, September 16, 2025 - 5:00 P.M.

HYBRID MEETING LOCATION: VIRTUAL THROUGH TEAMS (ACCESS DETAILS TO BE PROVIDED)
OR 100 WHITING AVENUE, OSHAWA, AUTHORITY'S ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE, BOARDROOM

Authority Bob Chapman, Chair
Members: Rhonda Mulcahy, Vice Chair
Marilyn Crawford
Sami Elhajjeh
Bruce Garrod
Ron Hooper
Rick Kerr
Tito-Dante Marimpietri
Ian McDougall
John Neal
David Pickles
Elizabeth Roy
Maleeha Shahid
Corinna Traill
Steve Yamada

Authority C. Darling, Chief Administrative Officer
Staff: B. Boardman, Senior Executive/Accounting Administrator/Recording Secretary
R. Catulli, Director, Corporate Services
J. Davidson, Director, Watershed Planning & Natural Heritage
L. Hastings, Communications Specialist
D. Hipple, Director, Engineering
D. Hope, Director, Land Operations & Education
C. Jones, Director, Planning & Regulation
L.Vaja, Executive Assistant/Health & Safety Administrator
R. Wilmot, Information Management & Technology Manager

Others:

AGENDA ITEM:

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. CHAIR'S WELCOME

We acknowledge that our watershed is located on the Lands of the Great Mississauga Nations who are signatories to the Williams Treaties. These communities include the Mississaugas of Scugog Island, First Nations of Alderville, Beausoleil, Curve Lake, Hiawatha, Chippewas of Georgina Island and Rama. We believe it is important that we learn, and work to reconcile the impact we, and those before us, have had on the original inhabitants. On behalf of CLOCA, we want to thank them for sharing this land and all its resources. At CLOCA, our goal is to respectfully share in the responsibility of the stewardship and protection of these ancestral lands and waters and continue towards truth and reconciliation as we move forward as friends and allies with all First Nations, Inuit, and Metis people.

2. DECLARATIONS of interest by members on any matters herein contained.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES of June 17, 2025

pg. 1

4. PRESENTATIONS – None

5. CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) Correspondence from Conservation Ontario
Re: Conservation Ontario Council Meeting Minutes – April 14, 2025

pg. 27

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the above correspondence item be received for information.

6. DIRECTOR, PLANNING & REGULATION

- (1) Staff Report #5940-25 pg. 42
Re: Permits Issued for Development, Interference with Wetlands, and Alteration to
Shorelines and Watercourses – June 1 to August 31, 2025

7. DIRECTOR, WATERSHED PLANNING & NATURAL HERITAGE

- (1) Staff Report #5943-25 pg. 46
Re: Funding Announcement for Improving Climate Resiliency of Oshawa Second Marsh Project
- (2) Staff Report #5944-25 pg. 49
Re: Durham Region Phragmites Management Area Working Group and Lynde Shores
Phragmites Control Project
- (3) Staff Report #5945-25 pg. 51
Re: Award Recommendation - Lynde Shores Wetland Creation Construction Contract
(Tender CLOCA2025-1)
- (4) Staff Report #5946-25 pg. 56
Re: Durham TREES Program – Program expansion and New Funding for Phase 2
- (5) Staff Report #5947-25 pg. 58
Re: Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program – Marginal Lands

8. DIRECTOR, ENGINEERING – None

9. DIRECTOR, LAND OPERATIONS & EDUCATION

- (1) Staff Report #5948-25 pg. 60
Re: Building Relationships – Canecrest Sweat Lodge

10. DIRECTOR, CORPORATE SERVICES

- (1) Staff Report #5942-25 pg. 63
Re: Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) – Responsible Use Policy

11. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER – None

12. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

- (1) Staff Report #5941-25 pg. 69
Re: Litigation

13. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

14. ADJOURNMENT

A G E N D A

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

MEETING OF:	Authority
DATE:	Tuesday, September 16, 2025
TIME:	5:00 p.m.
LOCATION:	Hybrid – Virtual (TEAMS) or In-person - 100 Whiting Ave, Oshawa

CENTRAL LAKE ONTARIO CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

MINUTES NO. 5 AUTHORITY MEETING

Tuesday, June 17, 2025 - 5:00 P.M.

HYBRID MEETING LOCATION: VIRTUAL THROUGH TEAMS (ACCESS DETAILS TO BE PROVIDED)
OR 100 WHITING AVENUE, OSHAWA, AUTHORITY'S ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE, BOARDROOM

Authority Members: Bob Chapman, Chair
Rhonda Mulcahy, Vice Chair
Ron Hooper
Tito-Dante Marimpietri
Ian McDougall
John Neal
Maleeha Shahid
Corinna Traill
Steve Yamada

Authority Staff: C. Darling, Chief Administrative Officer
B. Boardman, Senior Exec./Acc. Administrator/Recording Secretary
R. Catulli, Director, Corporate Services
J. Davidson, Director, Watershed Planning & Natural Heritage
R. Gerber, Senior Hydrogeologist
C. Gregory, Coordinator, Conservation Education
D. Hipple, Director, Engineering
D. Hope, Director, Land Operations & Education
C. Jones, Director, Planning & Regulation
D. Kiriakou, Service, Information & Records Coordinator
R. Wilmot, Information Management & Technology Manager

Absent: Marilyn Crawford
Sami Elhajjeh
Bruce Garrod
Rick Kerr
David Pickles
Elizabeth Roy

Others: S. Provenzano
A. Delle Cese, BDO Canada

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Chair Chapman recited the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

DECLARATIONS of interest by members on any matters herein contained - *None*

ADOPTION OF MINUTES (Agenda pg. 1)

Res. #49 Moved by R. Mulcahy
Seconded by I. McDougall

THAT the Authority minutes of May 13, 2025, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS - *None*

CORRESPONDENCE - *None*

DIRECTOR, PLANNING & REGULATION

(1) Staff Report #5936-25 (Agenda pg. 23)
Re: Permits Issued for Development, Interference with Wetlands, and Alteration to Shorelines
and Watercourses – May 1 to 31, 2025

Res. #50 Moved by M. Shahid
Seconded by R. Hooper
THAT Staff Report #5936-25 be received for information.
CARRIED

DIRECTOR, WATERSHED PLANNING & NATURAL HERITAGE – *None*

DIRECTOR, ENGINEERING – *None*

DIRECTOR, LAND OPERATIONS & EDUCATION

- (1) Staff Report #5937-25 (Agenda pg. 25)
Re: Conservation Education Update – December 2024 to June 2025 (Staff Presentation Enclosed)

Res. #51 Moved by R. Mulcahy
Seconded by S. Yamada
THAT Staff Report #5937-25 be received for information.
CARRIED

DIRECTOR, CORPORATE SERVICES

- (1) Staff Report #5938-25 (Agenda pg. 36)
Re: Draft 2024 Audited Financial Statements

Res. #52 Moved by R. Hooper
Seconded by M. Shahid
THAT the Auditor's Letter to the Board letter be received; and,
THAT the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2024, be approved as presented;
THAT a copy of the Audited Financial Statement be posted on CLOCA's website and a copy be sent to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks; and,
THAT BDO Canada be appointed as CLOCA Auditors for the year ending December 31, 2025.
CARRIED

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

- (1) Staff Report #5939-25 (Agenda pg. 59)
Re: Oak Ridges Moraine Groundwater Program (ORMGP) 2024 Annual Report and 2025 Work Plan

Res. #53 Moved by T.D. Marimpietri
Seconded by M. Shahid
THAT Staff Report #5939-25 be received for information.
CARRIED

CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS – *None*

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS – *None*

ADJOURNMENT

Res. #54 Moved by I. McDougall
Seconded by S. Yamada
THAT the meeting adjourns.
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.



Conservation Education

Board Report



HEALTHY WATERSHEDS FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW



Agenda

1) In your Watershed Program

- Class trips including Maple Syrup Tours
- SHSM/Nature Nook/New Programs

2) Great Lakes Grant - MECP

- Teacher Tour and Student Conference

3) Community Outreach

4) CATS Program

5) Maple Syrup Festival – 50 years!

6) New Education Animal



Conservation Education In Your Watershed Program

At Central Lake Ontario Conservation, it's our experience that the sooner children become active and engaged in the outdoors, the stronger and more lasting their bond will be with the natural environment. Furthermore, CLOCA strongly believes that spending time outdoors is an important way to maintain wellness as a whole.

We offer curriculum-based education programs to students from K – 12, homeschool groups, and Montessori schools

Local School Boards: DDSB, DCDSB, KPRDSB, PVNCCDSB and occasionally TDSB

A background image featuring a monarch butterfly perched on a purple flower, with green foliage in the background.

Benefits of Exploring the Great Outdoors

Increased Performance in School	Stronger Environmental Connection
Decreased Symptoms of ADHD	Increased Creativity and Empathy
Stronger Immune Systems	Greater Confidence
Decreased Stress	Improved Problem-Solving Skills
Increased Sense of Place	More Refined Motor Skills
Better Physical and Mental Health	Inspires Community to be Watershed Champions and Take Action to Improve Environment



Support for Outdoor Education



"What's important is that children have an opportunity to bond with the natural world, to learn to love it and feel comfortable in it, before being asked to heal its wounds... If we want children to flourish, to become truly empowered, let us allow them to love the earth before we ask them to save it."

David Sobel



CENTRAL LAKE ONTARIO CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



School Year 2024/2025

- Between 280 and 820 visiting students per month (Nov- end of Feb., Mid April – end of June)
- Maple Syrup Tours: 1899 students (2239 w/o weather cancellations)
-
- Total (8 months): 4968 students
- This total number includes 4 NN, 3 SHSM, and four scout/guide evening programs in February, April and May



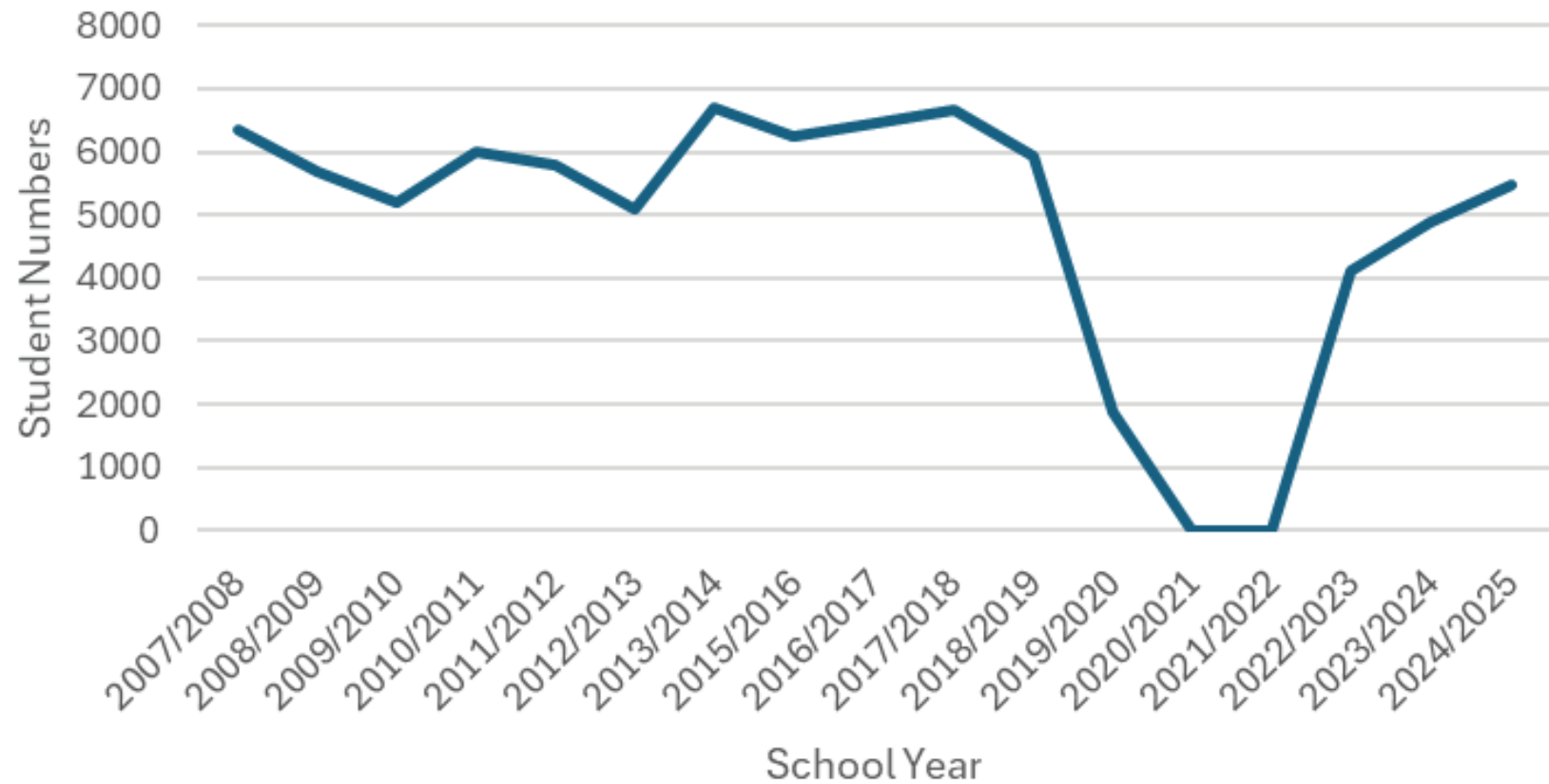


In Your Watershed Program





In Your Watershed Program





Specialist High Skills Major Certifications

- Students gain credits toward their Ontario Secondary School Diploma and focus their learning on a specific economic sector at the same time.
- Receive the SHSM seal on their diploma when:
 - Have completed a specific bundle of 8-10 courses in the student's selected field
 - Earned industry certifications
 - Gained important skills through cooperative education placements

December – delivered another successful GPS SHSM Certification

February – 2 ICE (Innovation, Creativity, and Entrepreneurship) SHSM Certifications

Turtle Conservation at Lynde Shores C.A. and Dog Management in C.A.s



ICE SHSM – Turtle Conservation at Lynde Shores C.A.



CENTRAL LAKE ONTARIO CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



Secondary School Invasive Species Program

Grade 12 Biology – Population Dynamics – Invasive Species Program

Past 3 years – Uxbridge and Durham
Christian (DC) Secondary Schools

- Plant stem count and percent species cover for 9 quadrats or subplots in the same 20 m²
- Impact monitored and there is a marked increase in native plants and significant decrease in garlic mustard





Exploring your Watershed – Primary Orienteering



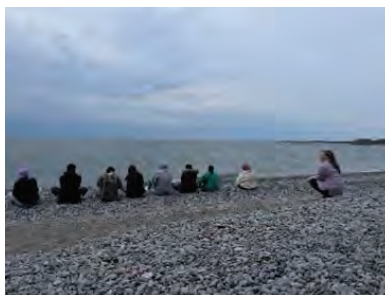
- Table-top sized maps (2ft. X 3 ft.) were created for Enniskillen and Heber Down C.A.s
- Orienteering blazes were put out to correspond with locations marked on the map
- Had our first booking of this program this spring at Enniskillen C.A.
- Used to compliment Junior Orienteering program learning at Heber Down C.A.
- Positive feedback from teachers



MECP Great Lakes Student Conference Grant

Community Partners:

Ontario Power Generation	Friends of Second Marsh	Ducks Unlimited Canada
Water Rangers	Durham Region Waste Management	Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters
Ontario Nature	Ontario Parks	Durham Farm Connections
Pollution Probe	Soul-led Wellness	



Components:

Teacher Tour – November 15th, 2024

- Watershed Tour from outlet to headwaters and back – CLOCA staff – 57 teachers

Classroom Pre-visits

- Educate students on how our watershed and actions within it connect to the Great Lakes
- Introduce components of the conference

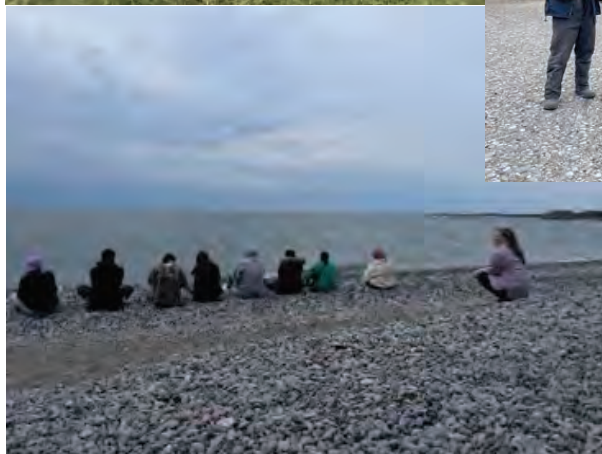
Student Conference – April 15th, 2025

Heydenshore Pavillion - Whitby

- CLOCA and 11 Community partners leading Great Lakes themed stations - 75 students
- James Carpenter (Anishinaabe Healer) with assistance from James Costello (DCHC – Indigenous Health Promoter) opened the day in a good way
- Speakers: Mayor Roy (Town of Whitby), Chris Darling (CLOCA) and Elizabeth Everhardus (MECP)
- Volunteer and work opportunities related to Great Lakes
- Event connected students to the Great Lakes and the importance of taking actions to help keep our watershed healthy



Great Lakes



CENTRAL LAKE ONTARIO CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



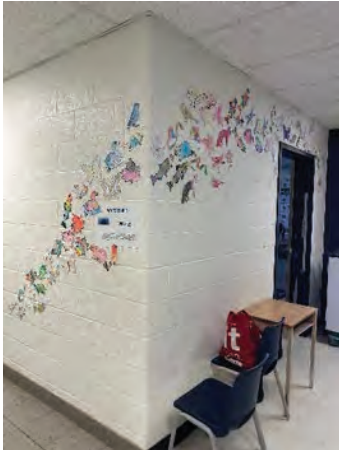
CLOCA Community Events

Event Title	Date (2025 if not stated)	Location	Attendance
Bird Count for Kids	November 30 th , 2024	Enniskillen C.A.	29
Evening Snowshoe Hike	February 14 th	Enniskillen C.A.	Family: 43 Couples: 47
Mother's Day Wildflower Hike and Tea	May 10th	Purple Woods C.A.	38
Summer Solstice Firefly Hike	June 20th	Purple Woods C.A.	80 Registered





Corporate Outreach – Bring Back the Salmon



- Partnership with OPG and OFAH
- Grade ¾ classes from GJ MacGillvray P.S. in Courtice

Components:

- **Hatchery/Launch Set-up** – January 27th, 2025
- **Earth Day Hike/Garbage Clean-up** – April 22nd, 2025
- **Watershed Wishes** – May 6th 2025
- **Fry Release** – May 27th, 2025 – together with the Municipality of Clarington and Valleys 2000: The Valleys of Bowmanville.



Community Outreach

Event Title	Date (2025)	Location	Attendance
CLOCA Maple Syrup Production	January 13 th	Durham College Corporate Training Services (Whitby)	12
Heros for Wildlife	February 21 st – 23 rd	Garnet B. Rickard Complex, Bowmanville	~ 40
Big Drum Social	April 26 th	Children's Arena, Oshawa	Over 50
Eco-Extravaganza	May 1 st	R.H. Cornish P.S. – Port Perry	70
Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Program (SNAP) Event	May 8 th	Whitby – West Lynde P.S. and St. Margarete Deville C.S.	30
Oshawa Garden Club Plant Sale	May 24 th	South Oshawa Community Centre	70
Indigenous Cultural Celebration (Education and Natural Heritage Staff - CLOCA table/display)	May 31 st , 2025	Oshawa	Over 50

Turtle Cover Program

- May 16th, 2025 – covers placed at Lyndes Shores, Heber Down, Bowmanville Westside Marshes C.A.s
- QR code/survey/dashboard
- CATS assistance





Conservation Area Trail Stewards - CATS

- Currently have 116 active CATS
- Instrumental in monitoring and reporting various conditions across our trails
- Year to Date Impact: 292 reports submitted, 628 volunteer public interactions recorded and 233 bags of garbage collected

Feb. 26th, 2025 – Assisted with **bird box cleanout** at Enniskillen and recorded observations

May 13th, 2025 – Appreciation **spring wildflowers hike** at Stephen's Gultch

June 5th, 2025 – **Garlic Mustard pull** at Purple Woods C.A. (CATS participation)





2025 Purple Woods Maple Syrup Festival



Attendance and Admissions	7470 participants (slight increase)
Pancake Program	Hosted 6 Community Groups
Kitchen Operations	Berry Hill Food Company
Staffing	12 (most returning)
Special Guests and New Additions	Oshawa and Scugog Shores Museums Soper Creek Wildlife Rescue Oshawa Public Library Durham Region Waste Management Bawaajigewin Community Circle Members TRACKS Youth Program
Sponsorship	Received \$26,500 sponsorships, generously contributed by: \$10 000 - Boyle Excavating \$5 000 each – Tribute Communities, Fieldgate Homes, Vickery Technical Services \$500 each – Pure Mechanical, Durham Kubota, Ontario Motor Sales
Volunteer Contributions	69 Secondary School Students and community volunteers contributed 886 hours of support



2025 Purple Woods Maple Syrup Festival

Maple Syrup Event

First Tapping



- Honoured to host OMSPA Haliburton-Kawartha local chapter's event. A host sugar bush is selected each spring for this event.
- First Nations special guests opened the event "in" traditional knowledge, stories and practices.
- Marks the beginning of a new and respectful track and reconciliation.
- Bob Gilbank put in the first tap. He has been with the festival for year 1 offering horse and wagon rides to visitors. Sadly he passed away in year 1. A huge thank you to the Gilbank family!
- Beautiful beaded cabochon pins were made by J... Delaware First Nation (Leni Lanape) Wolf Clan (b... go) were worn at the event.



Tipi Set-up



- A few CLOCA staff lead by James Carpenter (Anishinaabe Healer with assistance from James Costello (DCHC – Indigenous Health Promoter). Tipi was a valued part of this year's festival.



2025 Purple Woods Maple Syrup Festival

Maple Syrup Event

Lantern Hike

This popular event welcomed 100 participants
Enjoyed Maple Long Johns made by Crave Doughnuts
Samples of two syrup grades: Amber and Dark
Lantern-lit self-guided trail with staffed interpretive stops
educating visitors on the maple syrup making process and
history.

50th Anniversary – Maple Sips and Savouries

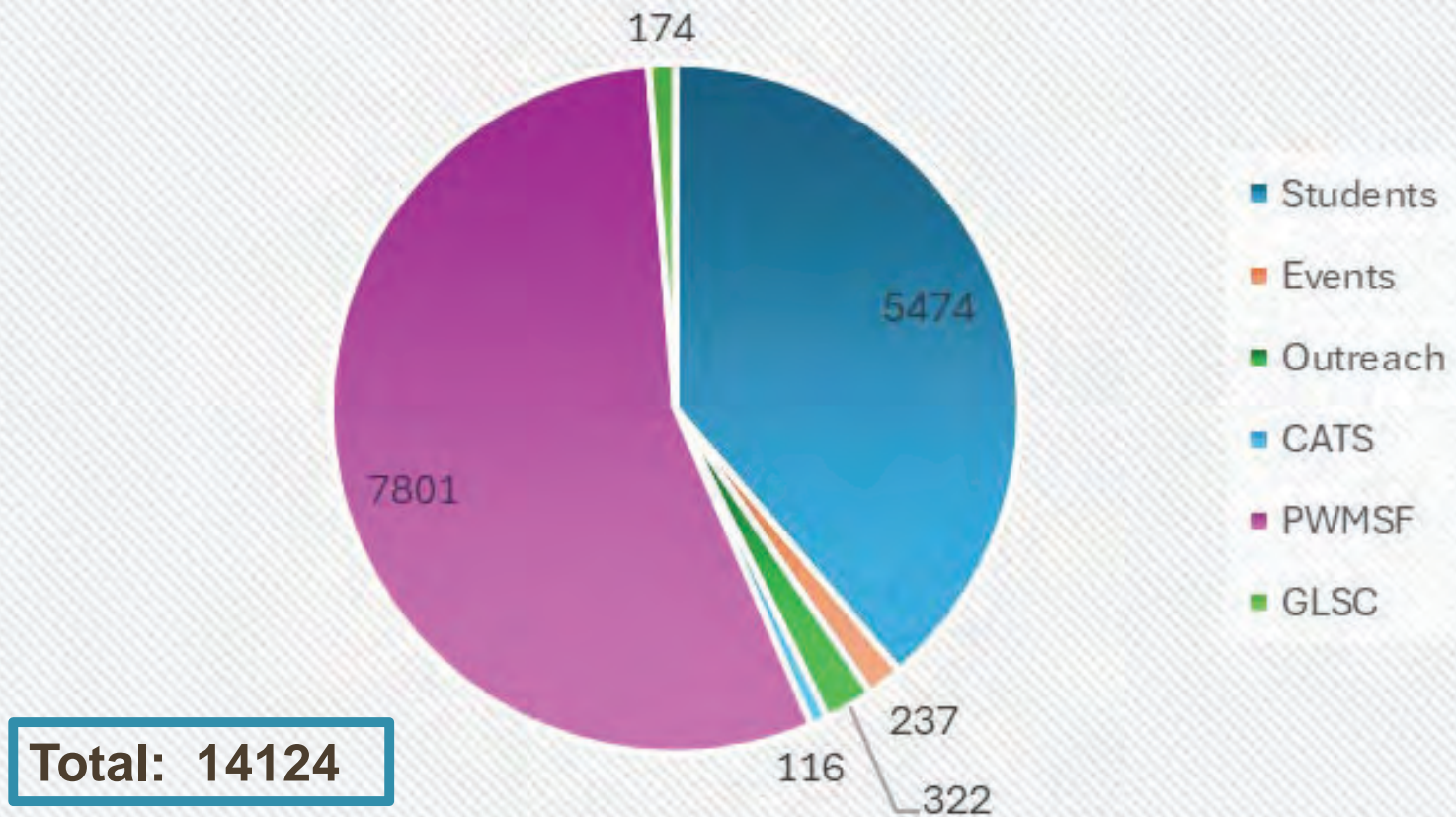


Proudly celebrated 50 years of maple syrup production.
Partnered with Whitby's Town Brewery to craft a special
maple cream ale featuring our maple syrup. Maple-themed
tapas prepared by Stuttering John's Smokehouse were
served.

120 participants enjoyed an evening of live acoustic music
followed by a stroll through the illuminated sugar bush.
Fire with DIY smores and a warm-up station offering warm
beverages by Tall Pines Coffee.



Education - Community Engagement





NEW Education Animal



- Eastern Fox Snake (Ontario Native)
- Endangered (COSEWIC)
- Excellent ambassador for snakes in our watershed to teach local communities about the threats they face and actions that can be taken to help
- Constrictor/Tree Climber/Docile



Thank you



CENTRAL LAKE ONTARIO CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



CONSERVATION ONTARIO COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2025 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Sheraton Parkway North Hotel & Suites - 600 Highway 7, Richmond Hill, ON L4B 1B2

Voting Delegates Present:

Vice Chair: Pat Warren, Kawartha

Ray Chartrand, Ausable Bayfield
Davin Heinbuck, Ausable Bayfield
Paul Proderick, Cataraqui Region
Gary Oosterhoff, Cataraqui Region
David Ellingwood, Cataraqui Region
Morgaine Griffin, Catfish Creek
Dusty Underhill, Catfish Creek
Chris Darling, Central Lake Ontario
Quentin Hanchard, Credit Valley
Colin McLellan, Crowe Valley
Tim Pidduck, Crowe Valley
Molly Allaire, Essex Region
Tim Byrne, Essex Region
Vicki Mink, Ganaraska Region
Linda Laliberte, Ganaraska Region
John Challinor, Grand River
Samantha Lawson, Grand River
Robert Uhrig, Grey Sauble
Tim Lanthier, Grey Sauble
Chandra Sharma, Halton
Brad Clark, Hamilton
Pat Warren, Kawartha
Mark Majchrowski, Kawartha
Todd Noble, Kettle Creek
Elizabeth VanHooren, Kettle Creek
Clare Riepma, Lake Simcoe Region
Rob Baldwin, Lake Simcoe Region
Dave Beres, Long Point Region
Judy Maxwell, Long Point Region
Paul Tiessen, Lower Thames Valley

Mark Peacock, Lower Thames Valley
Gene Brahaney, Lower Trent
Rhonda Bateman, Lower Trent
Ed McGugan, Mailand Valley
John Metcalfe, Niagara Peninsula
Stew Beattie, Niagara Peninsula
Leilani Lee -Yates, Niagara Peninsula
Carl Jorgensen, Nickel District,
(Conservation Sudbury)
Michelle Lahaye, North Bay-Mattawa
Jonathan Scott, Nottawasaga Valley
Gail Little, Nottawasaga Valley
Sheryl Flannagan, Nottawasaga Valley
(Acting CAO)
Brad McNevin, Quinte Region
Alison McDonald, Raisin Region
Sommer Casgrain-Robertson, Rideau Valley
Erik Downing, Saugeen Valley
Corrina Barrett, Sault Ste Marie Region
Adrien Wynands, South Nation
Carl Bickerdike, South Nation
Greg Grimes, St. Clair Region
Ken Phillips, St. Clair Region
Paul Ainslie, Toronto and Region
Dave Barton, Toronto and Region
John Mackenzie, Toronto and Region
Dean Trentowsky, Upper Thames River
Tracy Annett, Upper Thames River

Guests:

Adam Delle Cese, BDO LLP
Nigel Bellchamber, Amberley Gavel Ltd.

Members Absent:

Lakehead Region
Mattagami Region
Mississippi Valley

CO Staff:

Kristin Bristow
Angela Coleman
Nicholas Fischer
Bonnie Fox
Katie Franken
Lauren McPherson

Nekeisha Mohammed
Patricia Moleirinho
Leslie Rich
Jo-Anne Rzaeki
Jenna Salvatore
Rick Wilson

1. Welcome from the Chair

Vice Chair Warren welcomed everyone in attendance, and a land acknowledgement was provided.

2. Roundtable Introductions of New Council Members

- Angela Coleman provided a welcome to the new membership, and highlighted that Nigel Bellchamber was joining the meeting to facilitate a discussion towards the end of the meeting. Angela thanked Chris White for his tenure as Conservation Ontario Chair for the last two years.
- Nekeisha Mohammed was recognized for a Conservation Ontario milestone award; 10 years with Conservation Ontario.
- General Managers and new Council members introduced themselves to the membership. Jonathan Scott noted that Jennifer Vincent would be starting as Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) at Nottawasaga Valley on May 5th, and Michelle Lahaye noted that Carolyn Rodgers would be starting as CAO at North Bay-Mattawa on April 28th.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

There was a request for two agenda items to be pulled from Consent and added to the Discussion items. These items are:

- p) Update: Conservation Ontario's comments on the "2016-2020 Cumulative Impact Assessment under the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement" (ERO#019-9455)
- s) Program Updates – siii) Drinking Water Source Protection Program

These items were addressed as Discussion Items n2) and n3) respectively.

RESOLUTION NO. COUNCIL - 1/25 Moved by: Jonathan Scott
Seconded by: Molly Allaire

THAT the Agenda be adopted as amended.

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

There was none declared.

5. Request for Approval: Conservation Ontario Council Meeting Minutes of December 9, 2024.

**RESOLUTION NO. COUNCIL - 2/25 Moved by: Paul Ainslie
Seconded by: Rob Uhrig**

THAT the minutes of the December 9, 2024 Council Meeting be approved.

CARRIED

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was none that was not covered by the meeting agenda.

6. Agenda Items

DISCUSSION ITEMS

a) Request for Approval: 2025 Conservation Ontario Council Elections (and Procedures)

Angela Coleman presented the report.

**RESOLUTION NO. COUNCIL – 3.1/25 Moved by: Adrian Wynands
Seconded by: Carl Jorgensen**

THAT Council appoints Angela Coleman, General Manager, as Acting Chair;

AND THAT the Auditing firm of BDO Canada LLP and Lauren McPherson of Conservation Ontario be appointed as scrutineers in the event of a vote;

AND THAT Appendix A (*Conservation Ontario Annual Meeting Voting Delegates Election Procedures*) of the By-Laws of the Association of Conservation Authorities of Ontario (ACAO) be adhered to.

CARRIED

The proceedings were handed over to Angela Coleman (CO).

All the positions were declared vacant and open for election for 2025 and the election procedures were reviewed.

Angela Coleman called for nominations for Chair of Conservation Ontario for 2025. Pat Warren nominated Jonathan Scott (NVCA) for Chair of Conservation Ontario.

Paul Ainslie nominated Dave Barton (TRCA) for Chair of Conservation Ontario.
Angela Coleman called a third time for nominations and hearing none closed the nominations.

Jonathan Scott accepted his nomination for Chair of Conservation Ontario for 2025 and addressed the membership with his submission for the position of Chair.

Dave Barton accepted his nomination for Chair of Conservation Ontario for 2025 and addressed the membership with his submission for the position of Chair.

**RESOLUTION NO. COUNCIL - 3.2/25 Moved by: Molly Allaire
Seconded by: Pat Warren**

THAT the nominations for the position of Chair of Conservation Ontario for 2025 be closed.
CARRIED

Ballots were provided to the membership for an election, and scrutineers (Adam Delle Cese and Lauren McPherson) tallied the votes. Dave Barton was declared Chair of Conservation Ontario for 2025.

Angela Coleman called for nominations for 1st Vice Chair of Conservation Ontario for 2025.
Jonathan Scott nominated Pat Warren (KRCA).

Angela Coleman called a second and third time for nominations and hearing none closed the nominations.

Pat Warren accepted the nomination and was declared Vice Chair for Conservation Ontario for 2025.

Angela Coleman called for nominations for the 2nd Vice Chair of Conservation Ontario for 2025.

Jonathan Scott nominated Ed McGugan (MVCA).

Angela Coleman called a second and third time for nominations and hearing none closed the nominations.

Ed McGugan accepted the nomination and was declared Vice Chair for Conservation Ontario for 2025.

Angela Coleman called for nominations for the Director (staff position) for 2025.

Alison McDonald nominated Rob Balwin (LSRCA).

Angela Coleman called a second and third time for nominations and hearing none closed the nominations.

Rob Baldwin accepted the nomination and was declared Director of Conservation Ontario for 2025.

Angela Coleman called for nominations for the Director (staff position) for 2025.

John Challinor nominated Chandra Sharma (HRCA).

Angela Coleman called a second and third time for nominations and hearing none closed the nominations.

Chandra Sharma accepted the nomination and was declared Director of Conservation Ontario for 2025.

Angela Coleman called for nominations for Director for Conservation Ontario for 2025.

It was noted that this could be a staff or elected member.

Gene Brahaney nominated Brad McNevin (QC).

Angela Coleman called a second and third time for nominations and hearing none closed the nominations.

Brad McNevin accepted the nomination and was declared Director of Conservation Ontario for 2025.

**RESOLUTION NO. COUNCIL – 3.3/25 Moved by: John Metcalf
Seconded by: Paul Ainslie**

THAT there be a closing of nominations for positions for Vice Chair 1, and 2, and Directors 1, 2, and 3.

AND THAT the following members be accepted in their new positions on the Conservation Ontario Board of Directors:

Dave Barton, Chair of Conservation Ontario;
Pat Warren, Vice Chair of Conservation Ontario;
Ed McGugan, Vice Chair of Conservation Ontario;
Rob Baldwin, Director of Conservation Ontario;
Chandra Sharma, Director of Conservation Ontario;
Brad McNevin, Director of Conservation Ontario.

CARRIED

**RESOLUTION NO. COUNCIL – 3.4/25 Moved by: Erik Downing
Seconded by: Greg Grimes**

THAT the 2025 Election Ballots be destroyed.

CARRIED

b) Request for Approval: 2025 Council Voting Delegates and Alternates

Angela Coleman presented the report.

RESOLUTION NO. COUNCIL - 4/25 Moved by: Brad McNevin

Seconded by: Rob Baldwin

THAT the Council Voting Delegates and Alternates list be approved as presented.

CARRIED

c) Request for Approval: Standing Committee Representation

Angela Coleman presented the report.

**RESOLUTION NO. COUNCIL - 5/25 Moved by: Ray Chartrand
Seconded by: Paul Ainslie**

THAT the appointment of the Budget and Audit Standing Committee membership (as identified below) be approved;

AND THAT the membership of the Group Insurance and Benefits Committee (as identified below) be approved.

CARRIED

d) Request for Approval: Conservation Ontario Representatives and; Annual Update: Committees and Conservation Authority Discussion Groups

Bonnie Fox presented the report.

**RESOLUTION NO. COUNCIL - 6/25 Moved by: Chris Darling
Seconded by: Morgaine Griffin**

THAT Council receives this report as information.

AND THAT Council approves the following representatives of the following groups in **Table 1. Standing Interagency Committees:**

GLWQA Annex 2 Lakewide Partnership Management Committee (Canada Water Agency leads)

Alison McDonald, General Manager, Raisin Region Conservation Authority

GLWQA Annex 8 Groundwater Sub-Committee (Env and Climate Change Canada co-chair)

Don Ford, Senior Manager, Hydrogeology and Source Water Protection, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

Latornell Conservation Symposium Steering Committee (multi-stakeholder)

Stephanie Reed, Communications Assistant, Conservation Ontario

Provincial Flood Forecasting and Warning Committee (PFFWC)

Jessica Penz, Water Resources Technician, Upper Thames River Conservation Authority

The Ontario Aggregate Resources Corporation (TORAC) Board (multi-stakeholder)

Tim Lanthier, Chief Administrative Officer, Grey Sauble Conservation Authority

AND THAT Council approves the following representatives of the following groups in **Table 2. Ad Hoc Interagency Committees:**

Adapting to Coastal Hazards Across the Great Lakes Region Project Steering Committee

Bonnie Fox, Director, Policy and Planning, Conservation Ontario (Chair);

Tammy Cook, Chief Administrative Officer, Lakehead Region Conservation Authority;

Planning and Regulations Supervisor, Maitland Valley Conservation Authority;

Leilani Lee-Yates, Chief Administrative Officer and Secretary-Treasurer, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority;

Chandra Sharma, Chief Executive Officer, Conservation Halton;

Katie Franken, General Manager's Office, Project Coordinator, Conservation Ontario

Great Lakes St Lawrence Cities Initiative: Waterfront Transformation Working Group

Bonnie Fox, Director, Policy and Planning, Conservation Ontario;

Angela Coleman, General Manager, Conservation Ontario

AND THAT Council approves the following representatives of the following groups in **Table 3. Conservation Ontario Internal Working Groups:**

Conservation Authorities Natural Asset Management Working Group

Joanna Klees VanBommel, Research Scientist - Ecosystem and Climate Science, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority;

Martin Keller, Senior Manager, Watershed Planning and Source Protection, Conservation Halton;

Tatiana Koveshnikova, Program Manager, Natural Assets and Ecosystem Services, Credit Valley Conservation;

Mari Veliz, Healthy Watersheds Manager, Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority;

Bill Thompson, Manager, Watershed Plans and Strategies, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority;

Michelle Cavanagh, Team Lead, Special Projects, South Nation Conservation;

Tara Gaade, Program Coordinator, Watershed Strategies and Climate Research, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority;

Jo-Anne Rzaadki, Manager, Business Development and Partnerships, Conservation Ontario;

Jenna Salvatore, Special Projects Coordinator, Conservation Ontario

Conservation Authorities University Committee

Alison McDonald, General Manager, Raisin Region Conservation Authority

Conservation Authority Watershed Report Cards Communications Subcommittee

Kate Goodale, Communications Advisor, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

Conservation Authority Watershed Report Cards Data and Trends Subcommittee

Kata Bavrlic, Senior Analyst, Credit Valley Conservation;

Korey Hayes, GIS Specialist, Kawartha Conservation;

Andrew Chin, Project Manager, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

Conservation Authority Watershed Report Cards Forest Conditions Subcommittee

Yvette Roy, Program Manager Ecosystem and Climate Change Strategies, Credit Valley Conservation

Conservation Authority Watershed Report Cards Groundwater Subcommittee

Hailey Ashworth, Specialist, Hydrology, Credit Valley Conservation

Conservation Authority Watershed Report Cards Surface Water Quality Subcommittee

Mari Veliz, Healthy Watersheds Manager, Ausable Bayfield Conservation

Governance Accountability and Transparency Initiative Steering Committee

Angela Coleman, General Manager, Conservation Ontario;

Chandra Sharma, Chief Executive Officer, Conservation Halton

Client Service and Streamlining Initiative Steering Committee

Alison McDonald, General Manager, Raisin Region Conservation Authority;

Leilani Lee-Yates, Chief Administrative Officer and Secretary-Treasurer, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority

Drinking Water Source Protection (DWSP) Commemorating 25 Years Since Walkerton Water Contamination Event Working Group

Leslie Rich, Manager, Source Water Protection, Conservation Ontario;

Carl Seider, Risk Management Official, Grey Sauble Conservation Authority;

Kate Goodale, Healthy Watersheds Manager, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority;

Karen Gillan, Drinking Water Source Protection Program Supervisor & Risk Management Official/Communications Planner, Grey Sauble Conservation Authority;

Kelsey Leblanc, Coordinator, Source Protection, Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority;

Jason Jobin, Coordinator, Source Protection, Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority;

Donna Clarkson, Source Water Protection Specialist, Maitland Valley Conservation Authority;

Amy Dickens, Source Water Protection Coordinator, Quinte Conservation;

Tim Cumming, Communications Coordinator, Ausable Bayfield Conservation;

Natasha Mathieu, Source Water Protection Technical Assistant, Quinte Conservation

Joe Gordon, Regulations Coordinator, Upper Thames River Conservation Authority

Dan Hipple, Director, Engineering, Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority

THAT Council receives and files the 2025 Insurance Renewal and Committee Update as information.

CARRIED

** There was a scheduled break at this point in the agenda.**

g) Orientation for New Council Members (PowerPoint Presentation)

Angela provided an orientation presentation attached to the minutes. Additional questions from new members were invited by way of contacting Conservation Ontario directly.

h) Receive and File: 2024 Conservation Ontario Annual Report

Angela Coleman provided an update and presentation on the 2024 Annual Report.

RESOLUTION NO. COUNCIL – 9/25

Moved by: Clare Riepma

Seconded by: Ed McGugan

THAT Council receives the Update 2024 Conservation Ontario Annual Report as information.

CARRIED

i) Request for Approval: 2025 Special Projects Budget

Brad McNevin presented the report.

RESOLUTION NO. COUNCIL - 10/25

Moved by: Molly Allaire

Seconded by: Morgaine Griffin

THAT the 2025 Special Projects Budget in the amount of \$6,482,678 be approved as recommended by the Budget & Audit Committee.

CARRIED

j) Receive and File: Conservation Ontario Client Service and Streamlining Initiative (CSSI) and 2024 Permit Timelines and Regulatory Compliance Report

Nicholas Fischer provided an update and presentation attached to the minutes.

Carl Jorgensen asked if Conservation Ontario has seen an improving trend regarding permit timelines, and Nicholas Fisher noted that there has been an improvement since

initial tracking began in 2019 Conservation Ontario is continually working with CAs to identify opportunities for process improvements.

John Mackenzie noted the effort that has gone into the project, and the importance of raising unmet needs that CAs have, while emphasizing the ongoing work to address shared interests with the provincial government. CA capacity needs were highlighted to support timely review and approvals.

Dean Trentowsky supported TRCA's comments and spoke about the previous Minister's comments at ROMA expressing interest in reviewing CA permit timeline reporting. It was noted that a new provincial cabinet presents an opportunity to share CA successes with the new Minister.

**RESOLUTION NO. COUNCIL -11/25 Moved by: Dean Trentowsky
Seconded by: Paul Ainslie**

THAT Council receives and files the 2024 Annual Report on CA Section 28 Permit Timelines and Regulatory Compliance report.

CARRIED

k) Request for Approval: Ministry of Natural Resources and Conservation Authority Access Agreement Template

Nicholas Fischer presented the report.

**RESOLUTION NO. COUNCIL - 12/25 Moved by: Pat Warren
Seconded by: Paul Proderick**

THAT Council receives this report as information;

AND THAT Council approves the attached Ministry of Natural Resources and Conservation Authority Access Agreement Template for distribution to all Conservation Authorities for consideration of local use and adoption.

CARRIED

l) Update: Adapting to Coastal Hazards Across the Great Lakes Project

Bonnie Fox presented the report.

**RESOLUTION NO. COUNCIL - 13/25 Moved by: Adrian Wynands
Seconded by: Ed McGugan**

THAT Council receives the Adapting to Coastal Hazards Across the Great Lakes Project report as information.

CARRIED

m) Update: Congratulatory Letters to Elected Members of Provincial Parliament and Appointed Cabinet Ministers

Angela Coleman presented the report.

**RESOLUTION NO. COUNCIL - 14/25 Moved by: Dave Beres
Seconded by: Rob Uhrig**

THAT Council receives the Congratulatory Letters to Elected Members of Provincial Parliament and Appointed Cabinet Ministers report as information.

CARRIED

n) Update: Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program – Marginal Lands Initiative

Jo-Anne Rzadki and Jenna Salvatore presented the report.

Jo-Anne acknowledged the many CAs that are active in relationships with Provincial Ministries (particularly the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Agribusiness) and their staff, farmers, and other partners on the file. Jo-Anne outlined the differences in approaches to providing the program between Conservation Ontario and the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA); OSCIA's approach is having farmers apply online for funding to be allocated to their projects where CO provides funding to farmers/producers to deliver their projects, but also to the delivery partners that provide technical support to farmers on the ground. These delivery agents include CAs and other partners. Provincial partners like Ducks Unlimited Canada, ALUS Canada and Forests Canada will also be participating on a steering committee led by Conservation Ontario to foster and improve collaboration and strategies amongst partners.

Jo-Anne noted that enhanced funding within the GTA could encourage farmers to deliver eligible practices which could be a potential success of the program.

Ed McGugan asked about CAs working with local farmers and OSCIA and noted a concern regarding a conflict between traditional farmers on straight drainage systems with run-off vs. allowing water to soak in to avoid soil erosion issues. He further asked how to approach these issues with the Drainage Engineers and Superintendents and to discuss modernizing drainage approaches. Jo-Anne noted that CO and CAs are undertaking work with a variety of associations and partners involving agricultural drains, and that Davin Heinbuck (ABCA) is Conservation Ontario's representative as Liaison on the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers Land Drainage Committee. Jo-Anne asked Davin Heinbuck to speak about the Drainage Act & Section 28 Regulations Team (DART) and the rejuvenation of that working group. Davin spoke about the recent DART meeting and that they are revisiting the

Drainage Act and Conservation Authorities Act protocol which is a protocol for Municipalities and Conservation Authorities on Drain maintenance and repair. The reengagement of DART will involve reviewing s.4 and s.78 and opportunities to streamline those processes while still providing risk management.

**RESOLUTION NO. COUNCIL - 15/25 Moved by: Ray Chartrand
Seconded by: Gene Brahney**

THAT Council receives the Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program – Marginal Lands Initiative report as information.

CARRIED

n2) – PREVIOUSLY CONSENT ITEM p)

Update: Conservation Ontario's Comments on the "2016-2020 Cumulative Impact Assessment under the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement" (ERO#019-9455)

John Mackenzie requested this item pulled and thanked CO staff for their efforts in the coordination of comments. John wanted to flag that the submission spoke to the fact that there is not a robust model except for the University of Michigan model, and that it is important for Canada Water Agency, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, and the CA collective to create a basis of the model in a Canadian institution. John noted that there were good recommendations about conducting a knowledge sharing workshop, and encouraged that, following the Federal election, the collective should be pushing to undertake those relationship-building activities and make this a priority.

**RESOLUTION NO. COUNCIL - 16/25 Moved by: John Metcalfe
Seconded by: Molly Allaire**

THAT Council receives this report and the attached submission to the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) titled "2016-2020 Cumulative Impact Assessment under the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement" (ERO#019-8320), submitted January 17, 2025, as information.

CARRIED

N3) – PREVIOUSLY CONSENT ITEM siii)

Program Updates – siii) Update: Drinking Water Source Protection

John Mackenzie requested this item pulled and spoke about TRCA working with municipalities (City of Toronto and York Region especially) on lining up their capital projects on a ten-year plan basis, and looking at strategic ways to mitigate risks related to sewersheds, catchment areas, water systems, etc., and working with their public works departments to help mitigate the risks in an urban setting.

John mentioned LSRCA and their work on salt management and liability issues, and asked CAs to continue to speak to their SPCs and MPPs. Rob Baldwin commented on LSRCA's work with the salt working group and bi-national salt group that drafted a regulation regarding limited liability for private property. They are working to move recommendations and regulations forward. Rob also mentioned that LSRCA is working with senior regional councils on application for the *Municipal Act* and using it as a rule for the minimum standards with respect to salt management.

RESOLUTION NO. COUNCIL - 17/25 Moved by: Todd Noble
Seconded by: Erik Downing

THAT Council receives the Drinking Water Source Protection report as information.

CARRIED

CONSENT ITEMS

Consent Items o), q), r) and s) i. – s)ii, and s)iv. – s)v.

- o)** Update: Conservation Ontario's comments on "Enabling the Development of Commercial-Scale Geological Carbon Storage in Ontario: The Geological Carbon Storage Act" (ERO# 019- 9299)
THAT Council receives this report and the attached submission to the Environmental Registry of Ontario on "Enabling the Development of Commercial-Scale Geological Carbon Storage in Ontario: The Geological Carbon Storage Act" (ERO# 019- 9299), submitted January 9, 2025, as information.
- q)** Update: Re-Launch of the Drainage Act and Section 28 Regulations Team (DART)
THAT Council receives this report on the Re-Launch of the Drainage Act and Section 28 Regulations Team (DART) as information
- r)** Update: 2025 Latornell Conservation Symposium
THAT Council receives the 2025 Latornell Conservation Symposium report as information.
- s)i.** Update: Policy and Planning Program
THAT Council receives this report as information.
- s)ii.** Update: Business Development and Partnerships Program
THAT Council receives this report as information.
- s)iv.** Update: Marketing and Communications Program
THAT Council receives this report as information.
- s)vi.** Update: Information Management Program
THAT Council receives this report as information.

RESOLUTION NO. COUNCIL - 18/25 Moved by: Vicki Mink
Seconded by: Carl Jorgensen

THAT Council approve a consent agenda and endorse the recommendations accompanying Consent Items o), q), r) and s) i. – s)ii, and s)iv. – s)v

CARRIED

7. New Business

There was no new business identified.

8. Facilitated Session with Nigel Bellchamber

Nigel Bellchamber led a facilitated discussion on strategic positioning with a focus on threats and opportunities.

9. Meeting Adjournment

**RESOLUTION NO. COUNCIL - 19/25 Moved by: Pat Warren
Seconded by: Rob Baldwin**

THAT the April 14, 2025 Council meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Meeting Adjourned at: 2:30 p.m.

**Attachments to minutes can be found on the Conservation Ontario Council Members' page:
(<https://conservationontario.ca/members/council/council-meetings/2025-council-meetings>)**

DATE: September 16, 2025

FILE: RPRG3974

S.R.: 5940-25

TO: Chair and Members, CLOCA Board of Directors

FROM: Chris Jones, Director, Planning and Regulation

SUBJECT: **Permits Issued under Part VI of the Conservation Authorities Act for development activities, interference with watercourses and wetlands – June 1 to August 31, 2025**

APPROVED BY C.A.O. 

Attached are Development, Interference with Watercourse and/or Wetland applications made pursuant to Part VI of the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 41/24, as approved by staff and presented for the members' information.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Staff Report #5940-25 be received for information.

Attach.

PERMITS TO BE RATIFIED, FROM 1 JUN 2025 TO 31 AUG 2025

	Municipality	Owner / Applicant	Street Lot Con	Permit No	ApprovedDate	Description
1	CLARINGTON	DURHAM ONENET/VYTAL DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE	LAKE RD/LOT 09 & 10/BFC	C25-047-ABFG	21 AUG 2025	REVISION - DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH RE: THE INSTALLATION OF 3 CONDUIT NEAR 33 LAKE RD
2	CLARINGTON	PROPERTY OWNER	1447 PEBBLESTONE RD/LOT 35/CON 03	C25-102-ABW	23 JUN 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH A SECOND STORY ADDITION TO THE EXISTING HOUSE AND INSTALLING A NEW SEPTIC SYSTEM
3	CLARINGTON	MUNICIPALITY OF CLARINGTON	RUNDLE RD & BASELINE RD/LOT 21-23/CON 05 & 06	C25-104-ABG	25 JUN 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED A PEDESTAL AND TWO CONDUITS
4	CLARINGTON	MUNICIPALITY OF CLARINGTON/VIANET INC.	PEBBLESTONE RD/LOT 29 & 30/CON 03	C25-106-BFGW	30 JUN 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE INSTALLATION OF CONDUITS
5	CLARINGTON	PROPERTY OWNER	100 STEPHENS MILL RD/LOT 06/CON 04	C25-123-BFG	5 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH REPLACING AN EXISTING SEPTIC
6	CLARINGTON	PROPERTY OWNER	46 BRADSHAW ST/LOT 09/CON 02	C25-128-BG	12 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE REPLACEMENT OF AN EXISTING DECK IN THE SAME FOOTPRINT
7	CLARINGTON	MUNICIPALITY OF CLARINGTON/ROGERS COMMUNICATIONS	MEARNS RD & CONCESSION RD 3/LOT 09/CON 02 & 03	C25-132-BG	15 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH INSTALLING NEW CONDUIT AND VAULT
8	CLARINGTON	PROPERTY OWNER	8640 GRASSHOPPER PARK RD/LOT 14/CON 08	C25-133-BW	18 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH BUILDING A GARAGE, INCLUDING MITIGATION MEASURES FOR A REDUCED VEGETATION PROTECTION ZONE TO THE WETLAND
9	CLARINGTON	PROPERTY OWNER	2406 HANCOCK RD/LOT 27/CON 02	C25-134-B	18 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH DEMOLITION OF STRUCTURES DUE TO FIRE DAMAGE
10	CLARINGTON	MUNICIPALITY OF CLARINGTON/VIANET INC.	NASH RD (HANCOCK RD TO COURTICE RD)/LOT 27 & 28/CON 03	C25-140-ABG	19 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE INSTALLATION OF CONDUITS
11	CLARINGTON	PROPERTY OWNER/D.G. BIDDLE & ASSOCIATES	5340 BOWMANVILLE AVE/LOT 15/CON 05	C25-142-FG	22 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH CONSTRUCTING A NEW DRIVEWAY
12	CLARINGTON	PROPERTY OWNER	35 REBECCA CRT/LOT 11/CON 03	C25-144-B	26 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH SWIMMING POOL CONSTRUCTION
13	CLARINGTON DARLINGTON	PROPERTY OWNER	8559 WOODLEY RD/LOT 10/CON 08	C25-103-W	24 JUN 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH CLEANING A SILT POND
14	CLARINGTON DARLINGTON	COURTICE SERVICING LANDOWNERS GROUPS C/O DELTA URBAN INC./WSP	ALONG COURTICE RD (BLOOR ST TO TRULLS RD)/LOT 28, 29, 30/CON 01	C25-135-ABG	18 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE COURTICE ROAD SANITARY SEWER INSTALLATION FROM COURTICE RD TO THE FUTURE TOWNLINE RD.
15	OSHAWA	REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF DURHAM/ARCADIS	FAREWELL ST FROM HARBOUR ST TO BLOOR ST/LOT 06-07/BFC	O24-042-GBF	27 AUG 2025	EXTENSION - DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE ROAD RECONSTRUCTION OF FAREWELL ST(RR56) FROM HARBOUR RD TO SOUTH OF BLOOR ST E (RR22)
16	OSHAWA	DURHAM ONENET/LYNX PLANNING & ENGINEERING	POPLAR CRT TO HARMONY RD S/LOT 05/CON 01	O25-070-BFG	3 JUN 2025	REVISED - DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITES ASSOCIATED WITH INSTALLING NEW FIBRE OPTIC CABLE
17	OSHAWA	REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF DURHAM	STEVENSON RD S (BETWEEN GIBB ST & LAVAL DR)/LOT 14 & 15/CON 01	O25-091-BFG	2 JUN 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH PLACING MULTIPLE GRADE LEVEL BOXES AND CONDUITS
18	OSHAWA	PROPERTY OWNER	4465 GRANDVIEW ST N/LOT 02/CON 08	O25-094-ABG	6 JUN 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH NEW DRIVEWAY FOR PROPOSED DWELLING
19	OSHAWA	SCHLEISS DEVELOPMENT LTD./SCS CONSULTING GROUP	1500 CONLIN RD E/LOT 01/CON 05	O25-096-FGHW	10 JUN 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH TOPSOIL STRIPPING AND STOCKPILING, SITE ALTERATION AND GRADING, AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PONDS
20	OSHAWA	CHISHOLM, FLEMING & ASSOCIATES	KING ST W BRIDGE/LOT 11/CON 01 & 02	O25-097-AFR	10 JUN 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH CONCRETE REPAIRS AND REPAVING AS PART OF BRIDGE REHABILITATION WORK

21	OSHAWA	OSHAWA POWER	CONLIN RD E/ LOT /CON	O25-098-G	11 JUN 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH REMOVING 2 HYDRO POLES AND INSTALLING 2 NEW POLES
22	OSHAWA	MINTO COMMUNITIES INC./MINTO METROPIA (WINDFIELDS) GP INC.	1500 CONLIN RD E/LOT 01/CON 05	O25-101-FGHW	19 JUN 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH TOPSOIL STRIPPING AND STOCKPILING, SITE ALTERATION AND GRADING, AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PONDS
23	OSHAWA	MINTO COMMUNITIES INC./MINTO METROPIA (WINDFIELDS) GP INC.	1500 CONLIN RD E/LOT 01/CON 05	O25-101-FGHW	6 AUG 2025	REVISION - DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH TOPSOIL STRIPPING AND STOCKPILING, SITE ALTERATION AND GRADING, AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PONDS
24	OSHAWA	REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF DURHAM	LOT 02/CON 06	O25-105-BFGHW	27 JUN 2025	AMENDMENT - DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE ROAD RECONSTRUCTION ON COLUMBUS RD E (RR3) FROM 85M WEST OF GRANDVIEW ST N(RR3) TO 75 METRES EAST OF TOWNLINE RD & GRANDVIEW ST N (RR3) FROM 1000 METRES SOUTH TO 175 METRES NORTH OF COLUMBUS RD E (RR3)
25	OSHAWA	DURHAM ONENET/PLANVIEW UTILITY SERVICES	RITSON RD N & BEATRICE ST E/LOT 08 & 09/CON 03	O25-107-ABG	30 JUN 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH INSTALLATION OF CONDUIT
26	OSHAWA	PROPERTY OWNER	3455 RITSON RD N/LOT 08/CON 07	O25-111-GR	7 JUL 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH REPAIR OF EXISTING SEPTIC SYSTEM
27	OSHAWA	DURHAM ONENET/PLANVIEW UTILITY SERVICES	RITSON RD N AT ROSSLAND RD E/LOT 08 & 09/CON 02 & 03	O25-112-ABFG	8 JUL 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH CONDUIT
28	OSHAWA	CITY OF OSHAWA/K FREIDORF LTD.	137 FAREWELL ST/LOT 05/CON 01	O25-113-FGR	11 JUL 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH RESTORATION OF SOUTH STAIRS - PHASE 1 OF PARK TRAIL CONSTRUCTION
29	OSHAWA	CITY OF OSHAWA/CIMA	CONLIN RD E/LOT 02-11/CON 03 & 04	O25-114-GH	10 JUL 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH CONLIN RD E RECONSTRUCTION PHASE 1B
30	OSHAWA	PROPERTY OWNER	166 HARMONY RD S/LOT 05/CON 01	O25-119-R	21 JUL 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH CREATING AN ADDITIONAL DWELLING UNIT WITH AN EXISTING ABOVE GRADE ENTRANCE
31	OSHAWA	PROPERTY OWNER	1330 MADDOCK DR/LOT 01/CON 03	O25-121-BG	28 JUL 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH CREATING AN ADDITIONAL DWELLING UNIT IN AN EXISTING, UNFINISHED BASEMENT AND WALK-OUT
32	OSHAWA	DDSB/CIMA+	151 GIBB ST/LOT 12/CON 01	O25-122-BFG	29 JUL 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT OF WATER SERVICES
33	OSHAWA	PROPERTY OWNER	2055 HUNKING CRT/LOT 01/CON 04	O25-125-BFG	8 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH CREATING A SECOND UNIT IN THE BASEMENT AND A WALKOUT ENTRANCE
34	OSHAWA	PROPERTY OWNER	1193 SALMERS DR/LOT 02/CON 04	O25-127-FR	12 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH RENOVATING AN EXISTING BASEMENT TO CREATE AN ADDITIONAL DWELLING UNIT
35	OSHAWA	PROPERTY OWNER	2156 AVALON CRT/LOT 10/CON 05	O25-129-BG	13 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH INSTALLING AN ACCESSORY STRUCTURE
36	OSHAWA	ENBRIDGE GAS ONTARIO	1290 CONLIN RD/LOT 03/CON 05	O25-136-BG	18 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE INSTALLATION OF GAS SERVICE IN A NEW SUBDIVISION
37	OSHAWA	PROPERTY OWNER	272 KAISER CRES/LOT 12/CON 02	O25-143-BF	22 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE ADDITION OF A SECOND FLOOR ON TO AN EXISTING DWELLING
38	WHITBY	THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF DURHAM/STANTEC	WINCHESTER RD BETWEEN BALDWIN ST & ANDERSON ST/LOT 18-24/CON 05-06	W24-033-GFH	31 OCT 2025	EXTENSION - DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH RECONSTRUCTION AND WINCHESTER RD, INCLUDING BRIDGE WIDENING AND CULVERT REPLACEMENT AT LYNDE CREEK
39	WHITBY	PROPERTY OWNER	850 TAUNTON RD E/LOT 19/CON 04	W25-092-BGW	3 JUN 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE DEMOLITION OF EXISTING RESIDENTIAL BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION OF NEW 6 STOREY BUILDING

40	WHITBY	ROGERS COMMUNICATIONS	DUNDAS ST W/LOT 01 & 35/CON 01 & 02	W25-093-ABFGW	5 JUN 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH INSTALLING NEW BURIED FACILITIES
41	WHITBY	TRANS NORTHERN PIPELINES INC./STANTEC	485 LYNDEBROOK RD/LOT 29/CON 04	W25-095-AGW	6 JUN 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH CONDUCTING REGULAR MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES ALONG A PIPELINE
42	WHITBY	TOWN OF WHITBY/AQUAFOR BEECH	WEST OF BOUNDARY RD/LOT 18/BFC	W25-099-W	11 JUN 2025	RENEWAL - DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING WATERFRONT BOARDWALK TRAIL-INTREPID PARK
43	WHITBY	ABACUS EQUITY INFUSTION LTD/SCS CONSULTING	100 COLUMBUS RD E/LOT 21 & 22/CON 07	W25-100-GHW	16 JUN 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH PHASE 1 OF BROOKLIN NORTH LANDS
44	WHITBY	PROPERTY OWNER	18 CAMBER CRT/LOT 24/CON 06	W25-108-BG	30 JUN 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH INSTALLING AN IN-GROUD SWIMMING POOL
45	WHITBY	PROPERTY OWNER	37 ARMILIA PL/LOT 32/CON 03	W25-109-BG	2 JUL 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH INSTALLING A NEW DECK AT THE REAR OF THE PROPERTY
46	WHITBY	PROPERTY OWNER	29 ARMILIA PL/LOT 32/CON 03	W25-110-BG	3 JUL 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW DECK
47	WHITBY	PROPERTY OWNER	147 AUCKLAND DR/LOT 33/CON 03	W25-115-BG	14 JUL 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH CONSTRUCTING A DECK AND SWIMMING POOL AT THE REAR YARD
48	WHITBY	PROPERTY OWNER/MECHWAYS INC.	65 FRUITFUL CRES/LOT 32/CON 03	W25-116-R	15 JUL 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH RENOVATING AN EXISTING BASEMENT FOR PERSONAL USE
49	WHITBY	PROPERTY OWNER/WIZSPARK OVERSEAS INC.	262 LUPIN DR/LOT 24/CON 01	W25-117-R	18 JUL 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH INTERIOR ALTERATIONS TO CREATE AN ADDITIONAL DWELLING UNIT IN THE BASEMENT
50	WHITBY	SCS CONSULTING GROUP/LAZY DOLPHIN DEVELOPMENT INC	501 TWIN STREAMS RD/LOT 33/CON 03	W25-118-GH	18 JUL 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH STORMWATER MANAGEMENT POND CLEAN OUT
51	WHITBY	PROPERTY OWNER	45 WESTFIELD DR/LOT 32/CON 02	W25-120-BG	21 JUL 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH DEMOLISHING AN OLD DECK AND REPLACING IT WITH A NEW DECK
52	WHITBY	PROPERTY OWNER	625 TOWNLINE RD W/LOT 26/CON 09	W25-124-BFH	7 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH PROPOSED RECONSTRUCTION OF A DWELLING
53	WHITBY	PROPERTY OWNER	10 LONG DR/LOT 21/CON 01	W25-126-BG	11 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE INSTALLATION OF AN AWNING TO THE REAR YARD
54	WHITBY	TOWN OF WHITBY	DOCK AREA (NEAR 299 FRONT ST W)/LOT 27/BFC	W25-130-BGS	15 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH SHORELINE WORKS WITH PRE-CAST CONCRETE ANCHOR BLOCK TO INSTALL A SEASONAL MODULAR FLOATING DOCK
55	WHITBY	PROPERTY OWNER	217 MEADOW RD/LOT 18/CON 02	W25-131-BFG	15 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH NEW RESIDENTIAL HOME WITH ACCESSORY UNIT, DECKING, CABANA, SHEDS AND FUTURE POOL ALONG WITH LANDSCAPING WORK
56	WHITBY	TOWN OF WHITBY	2802 THICKSON RD S/LOT 21/BFC	W25-137-S	18 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH EMERGENCY WORKS TO REMOVE FAILED DECK AND OTHER STRUCTURES AT THE LAKE ONTARIO SHORELINE
57	WHITBY	PROPERTY OWNER/MECHWAYS INC.	306 LUPIN DR/LOT 24/CON 01	W25-138-FR	18 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH RENOVATING AN EXISTING BASEMENT FOR PERSONAL USE AND BUILDING A DECK
58	WHITBY	PROPERTY OWNER	25 ADANAC DR/LOT 22/CON 01	W25-139-BG	19 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH EXTENSION OF AN EXISTING DECK
59	WHITBY	PROPERTY OWNER	3 DEERFIELD CRT/LOT 31/CON 01	W25-141-BFG	20 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH IN GROUND SWIMMING POOL
60	WHITBY	2068681 ONTARIO INC./SCS CONSULTING GROUP	NE CORNER OF ASHBURN RD & COLUMBUS RD E/LOT 26/CON 07	W25-145-GW	27 AUG 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH GRADING, TOPSOIL STRIPPING, EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL WORKS, STORMWATER MANAGEMENT POND

REPORT

CENTRAL LAKE ONTARIO CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

DATE: September 16, 2025

FILE: AGRD13

S.R.: 5943-25

TO: Chair and Members, CLOCA Board of Directors

FROM: Jamie Davidson, Director, Watershed Planning & Natural Heritage
Dan Moore, Senior Ecologist, Environmental Monitoring & Ecosystem Science

APPROVED BY C.A.O. 

SUBJECT: Funding Announcement for Improving Climate Resiliency of Oshawa Second Marsh Project

Purpose

The *Improving Climate Resilience at Oshawa Second Marsh* Project builds on years of CLOCA's monitoring and research, and partnerships with organizations such as Ducks Unlimited Canada, Friends of Second Marsh, the City of Oshawa, and others. This report announces the recent award of \$1,614,500 of funding to CLOCA, as the project lead, from the Canada Water Agency (CWA) through The Great Lakes Freshwater Ecosystem Initiative, which will enable the implementation of these long-term restoration plans. The project reflects CLOCA's vision for the area, the value of these partnerships, and the ecological and community significance of Oshawa Second Marsh. CWA recognized the project for its strong scientific foundation, established partnerships, and potential to enhance wetland resilience in the Great Lakes region.

Key Takeaways:

- Funding from CWA provides \$1,614,500 over the next four years (2025-2028) to restore and protect Oshawa Second Marsh coastal wetlands.
- The overall project presents a holistic approach to safeguarding and enhancing the ecological integrity of this provincially significant coastal wetland.
- Partner contributions leverage resources and expertise, helping ensure comprehensive project completion.
- Restoration efforts aim to protect and enhance both ecological values and the recreational and social benefits of the marsh.
- Integrating climate projections and nature-based solutions, a range of individual projects will build adaptive capacity within the wetland so that it can better withstand future environmental challenges.

Project Partners:

The success of this project relies on the collaboration and support of multiple partners. Some provide direct financial support, while others contribute valuable in-kind resources, expertise, and services critical to implementation. These combined contributions make the ambitious goals achievable and demonstrate strong community and organizational commitment.

Table 1: Current partners and their cash and in-kind contributions.

Partner	Cash Contribution (\$)	In-Kind Support* (\$)
Canada Water Agency	1,614,500	–
Ducks Unlimited Canada	200,000	82,000
Friends of Second Marsh	5,000	22,000
Hamilton Oshawa Port Authority	15,000	–
City of Oshawa	–	29,000
CLOCA	15,500	200,000 (project lead)

*In-kind contributions include staff time, expertise, materials, and other resources that support project delivery.

Background

The project addresses pressing ecological challenges at Oshawa Second Marsh, building on extensive historical monitoring through the Durham Region Coastal Wetland Monitoring Project (DRCWMP). Monitoring has highlighted ecosystem decline due to climate stressors, invasive species, pollution, and human activities, emphasizing the need for urgent conservation action.

Restoration is made possible through the combined efforts of multiple partners, whose financial and in-kind contributions provide essential expertise, staffing, and materials. Continued collaboration with existing partners, as well as active engagement with First Nations and additional stakeholders, will be essential for implementing future phases and ensuring long-term success.

Future stressors—including extreme temperatures, fluctuating water levels, and increased precipitation—pose ongoing challenges for marsh resilience. The project integrates scientific research, strategic planning, and community engagement to address complex ecological, social, and environmental factors.

Comprehensive restoration strategies have been developed based on current research and best conservation practices. These strategies aim to enhance ecosystem resilience, restore degraded habitats, and promote long-term sustainability through Nature-Based Solutions. Adaptive management and ongoing monitoring will guide implementation and decision-making.

Community engagement and education remain central to the project's success. CLOCA seeks to inspire collective action, raise awareness, and foster partnerships to protect this important natural resource.

Funding from CWA has enabled the project to move forward, while additional partner contributions will support a significant portion of restoration over the next four years. Small-scale activities, including Phragmites management, will commence this fall, alongside planning for larger components. Implementation of these larger restoration activities is planned to occur annually beginning in 2026. Refer to Tale 2 for a full list of proposed projects and timelines. Additional funding and partnerships may be needed to achieve all long-term project targets.

Table 2: Proposed projects and timelines.

Project	Year	Purpose / Key Outcome
Phragmites Management	Year 1 & 2	Control invasive Phragmites to improve native vegetation cover and wetland habitat quality.
Barrier Beach Resilience Design	Year 2–4	Collaborate with a coastal engineer to develop a design that enhances the barrier beach's resilience to water level fluctuations, storm events, and long-term climate impacts.
Hydrology/Wetland Water Level Improvements	Year 3	Restore more natural hydrology to improve wetland resilience and function.
Removal of Existing Pumping Infrastructure	Year 3	Decommission outdated pumps to reduce artificial water level manipulation and support natural hydrology.
Interspersion and Bathymetry Restoration	Year 4	Create a natural mosaic of shallow and deep areas; restore bathymetric features to improve fish and wildlife habitat.
Berm Enhancements for Long-Term Protection	Year 4	Strengthen existing berms to protect the wetland from extreme water level fluctuations and erosion.

Conclusions

The recent award of \$1,614,500 of funding to CLOCA, as the project lead, from the Canada Water Agency represents a significant step toward improving ecosystem health and resilience at Oshawa Second Marsh. CLOCA and all partners recognize the ecological and social importance of the area and are investing in its long-term sustainability. Continued collaboration and engagement will be essential to achieve all long-term restoration goals.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Staff Report #5943-25 be received for information.

JD/DM/bb
s:\reports\2025\sr5943_25.docx

DATE: September 16, 2025

FILE: NISS1, AGRA35

S.R.: 5944-25

TO: Chair and Members, CLOCA Board of Directors

FROM: Jamie Davidson, Director, Watershed Planning and Natural Heritage
Erin Kerr, Terrestrial Biologist

APPROVED BY C.A.O. 

SUBJECT: Durham Region Phragmites Management Area Working Group and Lynde Shores Phragmites Control Project

Purpose

Invasive Phragmites (common reed) is an aggressive species of grass that spreads rapidly, displacing native vegetation, degrading habitat, reducing biodiversity, impacting municipal infrastructure management, and limiting public access to natural areas. Managing this invasive species is a growing priority across Durham Region. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on two complementary initiatives addressing invasive Phragmites within CLOCA's jurisdiction in partnership with the Region of Durham and a wide range of partners and stakeholders: the Durham Region Phragmites Management Area Working Group and the Lynde Shores Phragmites Control Project. These initiatives demonstrate collaborative approaches to invasive species management, support ecosystem restoration, and enhance public awareness of Phragmites impacts.

Background and Project Descriptions

Durham Region Phragmites Management Area Working Group (DRPMAWG)

In 2024, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry announced a \$16 million, three-year investment to combat invasive species across Ontario. Administered through the Invasive Species Centre and partner organizations, this funding supports province-wide planning, innovation, and on the ground action, including the Invasive Phragmites Control Fund, which supports community projects, such as the Lynde Shores Phragmites Control Project, which is discussed below. This provincial investment strengthens the foundation for the DRPMAWG, ensuring that efforts within Durham Region are coordinated within a larger, landscape-scale strategy and supported by technical guidance, funding pathways, and knowledge-sharing networks.

The Invasive Species Centre approached CLOCA in 2024 regarding the creation of a Durham Region Phragmites focused working group. CLOCA assumed a leadership role, bringing together stakeholders from Durham Region, local municipalities, First Nations, Conservation Authorities, and environmental organizations. The Invasive Species Centre provides CLOCA with modest annual funding to coordinate this working group on behalf of the collaborative. The group has now convened two meetings, engaging approximately 65 participants representing a diverse range of organizations. Discussions have focused on regional collaboration, knowledge sharing, and the development of coordinated management strategies. DRPMAWG serves as a platform to share expertise, align management approaches, and support municipalities and organizations in implementing Phragmites control efforts effectively across the region.

Additionally, the Region of Durham has successfully secured funding for a complementary project focused on mapping and managing Phragmites across the region. This initiative builds upon the Working Group's coordination efforts and presents opportunities for continued collaboration with CLOCA and other stakeholders to implement landscape-scale management strategies.

Cont'd

Lynde Shores Phragmites Control Project

The Lynde Shores Phragmites Control Project aims to manage and reduce invasive Phragmites within Lynde Shores Conservation Area, protecting two provincially significant coastal wetlands: Cranberry Marsh and Lynde Creek Marsh. These wetlands provide essential ecosystem services, support biodiversity, and offer recreational opportunities such as hiking, fishing, and wildlife viewing. Since first appearing in 2017, Phragmites has expanded to cover approximately 2 hectares in Cranberry Marsh, 1 hectare along the newly expanded Victoria Street, and 0.5 hectares in scattered patches across the Conservation Area. Left unmanaged, Phragmites degrades habitat, disrupts hydrology, and reduces the social and cultural benefits of these wetlands.

The project seeks to remove roughly 2.5 hectares of Phragmites to restore ecological function, protect biodiversity, and improve public access and visibility in the wetlands. CLOCA is implementing an integrated management approach that combines traditional chemical control and biomass removal, while supporting ongoing biocontrol research in partnership with the University of Toronto. As a result, a 0.5 hectare patch of Phragmites that is the primary focus of the biocontrol research, and the first release site of the targeted moth species will be left unmanaged at this time to facilitate ongoing research efforts. Collaboration with the Region of Durham will address roadside infestations along Victoria Street, a major pathway for spread, while the Invasive Phragmites Control Centre will provide expertise to ensure best practices are applied. Public outreach is also a key component, with signage, social media, and on-site engagement helping to inform and educate visitors during project implementation.

The project received funding of \$26,266 from the Invasive Phragmites Control Fund, that is administered by the Invasive Species Centre, is expected to significantly reduce Phragmites in key management areas, support native vegetation recovery, and foster long-term collaboration among agencies.

Strategic Alignment

Both the PMA Working Group and the Lynde Shores Phragmites Control Project align with CLOCA's strategic priorities of:

- **Ecosystem protection and restoration:** Directly managing Phragmites to safeguard provincially significant wetlands.
- **Partnerships and Collaboration:** Building strong alliances with municipalities, conservation authorities, and academic institutions to leverage expertise and resources.
- **Community engagement and education:** Enhancing public awareness of invasive species impacts and promoting stewardship practices.
- **Invasive Species Management in action:** Advancing coordinated actions that deliver on CLOCA's Invasive Species Management Strategy through targeted control, monitoring, and restoration efforts.

Conclusion

CLOCA is leading two major initiatives to tackle invasive Phragmites: the Durham Region Phragmites Management Area Working Group, which brings partners together to coordinate efforts across the region, and the Lynde Shores Phragmites Control Project, which is removing 2.5 hectares of invasive growth from Cranberry Marsh and Victoria Street while supporting new biocontrol research. By combining control methods, building strong partnerships, and engaging the community, these projects are working to protect provincially significant wetlands, improve public access to natural areas, improve infrastructure management, and support healthier ecosystems. Continued collaboration, monitoring, and sharing of results will help ensure these gains are sustained and that long-term, effective management of invasive species remains possible across the watershed.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Staff Report #5944-25 be received for information.

DATE: September 16, 2025

FILE: NWTS3

S.R.: 5945-25

TO: Chair and Members, CLOCA Board of Directors

FROM: Jamie Davidson, Director, Watershed Planning & Natural Heritage
Dan Moore, Senior Ecologist, Environmental Monitoring & Ecosystem Science

SUBJECT: **Award Recommendation - Lynde Shores Wetland Creation Construction Contract (Tender CLOCA2025-1)**

APPROVED BY C.A.O. 

Purpose

CLOCA is moving forward with the second phase of the Lynde Shores Conservation Area Restoration and Resilience Project, which has already been before the Board of Directors a number of times (SR#5891-24, SR#5897-24, SR#5922-25). The purpose of this report is to seek formal CLOCA Board approval to proceed with awarding the contract for the second phase. Upon approval, CLOCA will formally initiate the project implementation in collaboration with Vasq Ltd in alignment with the overall project schedule.

Recommended Construction Contract

This phase, referred to as the Wetland Creation and Resilience Project, addresses critical environmental challenges affecting Great Lakes water quality and ecosystem health. Our objectives for this phase of the project include:

- Mitigating the impacts of Lake Ontario water level regulation on wetland function.
- Increasing the amount of wetland habitat.
- Increasing the trail network and providing a lookout over the new habitat.
- Enhancing biodiversity and habitat quality to support diverse species.
- Improving overall water quality in the area.

In July 2025, CLOCA released Tender CLOCA2025-1 for the implementation of wetland creation activities at Lynde Shores Conservation Area. The proposed work includes excavation and grading to establish new wetland features in priority areas south and north of Victoria Street, supporting long-term habitat diversity and climate resilience.

Three bids were received and evaluated in accordance with CLOCA's procurement policy (Table 1). Staff recommend awarding the contract to the lowest compliant bidder. Following evaluation, Vasq Ltd has been identified as the lowest bidder meeting all requirements of the tender. Reference checks have been completed, and feedback confirms that Vasq Ltd is a reliable and capable contractor with relevant experience in environmental restoration. Their past performance demonstrates strong communication, quality work, adherence to timelines, and consistency with original bid values.

Table 1: Summary of the bids received for Tender CLOCA2025-1

Bidding Contractor	Price (exclusive of HST)
Vasq Ltd.	\$818,800
Ellbrook Excavating Inc.	\$1,134,653
Hawkins Contracting Services Ltd.	\$2,494,412

This portion of the project is supported by funding from Environment and Climate Change Canada, Durham Region, and Ducks Unlimited Canada.

Background

CLOCA has received \$2,177,000 from Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) over the next four years through The Great Lakes Freshwater Ecosystem Initiative. This funding aims to address significant environmental challenges affecting Great Lakes water quality and ecosystem health, aligning with Canada's commitments under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. A primary focus is restoring and protecting critical coastal wetlands from climate change impacts. CLOCA has used data from long-term monitoring programs to plan for enhanced resilience in these areas and will now implement these plans with the new funding. ECCC selected the Lynde Shores Conservation Area Restoration and Resilience Project due to CLOCA's thorough background work, partnerships formed, and the area's importance for both ecology and community.

With funding now confirmed from Environment and Climate Change Canada, Durham Region, and Ducks Unlimited Canada, staff are preparing to implement the second construction phase of the Lynde Shores Conservation Area Restoration and Resilience Project. This construction phase focuses on wetland creation—restoring historically lost wetland habitat to support biodiversity, climate resilience, and community access to nature.

Over the past century, wetland cover in the Lynde Shores area has declined significantly due to a combination of land-use changes, invasive species, and the regulation of Lake Ontario's water levels. Agricultural conversion, urban development, and altered hydrology have all contributed to the loss and degradation of wetland ecosystems. Until the recent interspersed work, much of the area north of Victoria Street was dominated by dense stands of hybrid cattail (*Typha x glauca*), with limited open water or plant diversity.

The wetland creation project aims to reverse these trends by excavating new wetland basins in areas where wetlands once thrived, both north and south of Victoria Street (see Figure 1, 2, and 3). These features will reintroduce open water, create gentle grading to support a range of native wetland vegetation, and restore hydrologic function to the site. In doing so, the project will create habitat conditions that support a greater diversity of plant and animal species—including amphibians, birds, and aquatic life—and increase the wetland's ability to buffer the impacts of climate change.

Beyond the ecological benefits, the project will also improve opportunities for the public to enjoy and engage with the restored landscape. A new wetland lookout area will be constructed adjacent to the created wetlands located south of Victoria Street, relatively close to the main conservation area parking lot on Halls Road, providing visitors with a peaceful place to connect with nature, observe wildlife and experience the natural beauty of Lynde Shores. The elevated lookout will be designed using natural materials and will offer an accessible, family-friendly space for learning and recreation.

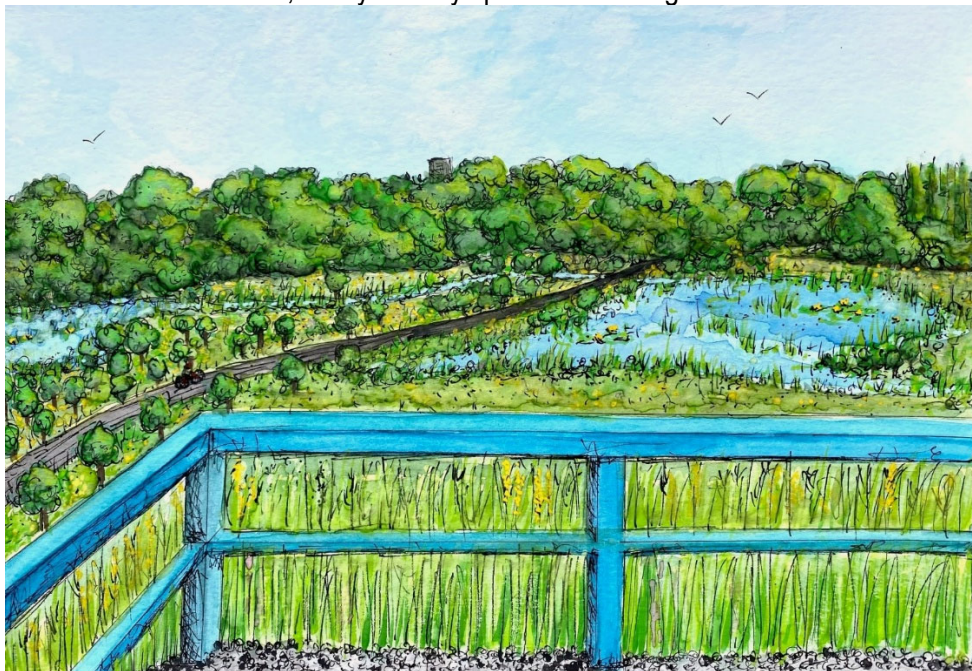


Figure 1: Concept drawing showing the view from the proposed lookout over the new wetland habitat and the waterfront trail.

Cont'd

Design drawings for the two wetland creation projects are included below. These illustrate the layout of the proposed wetland basins, integration with existing trails, and the new public lookout feature.

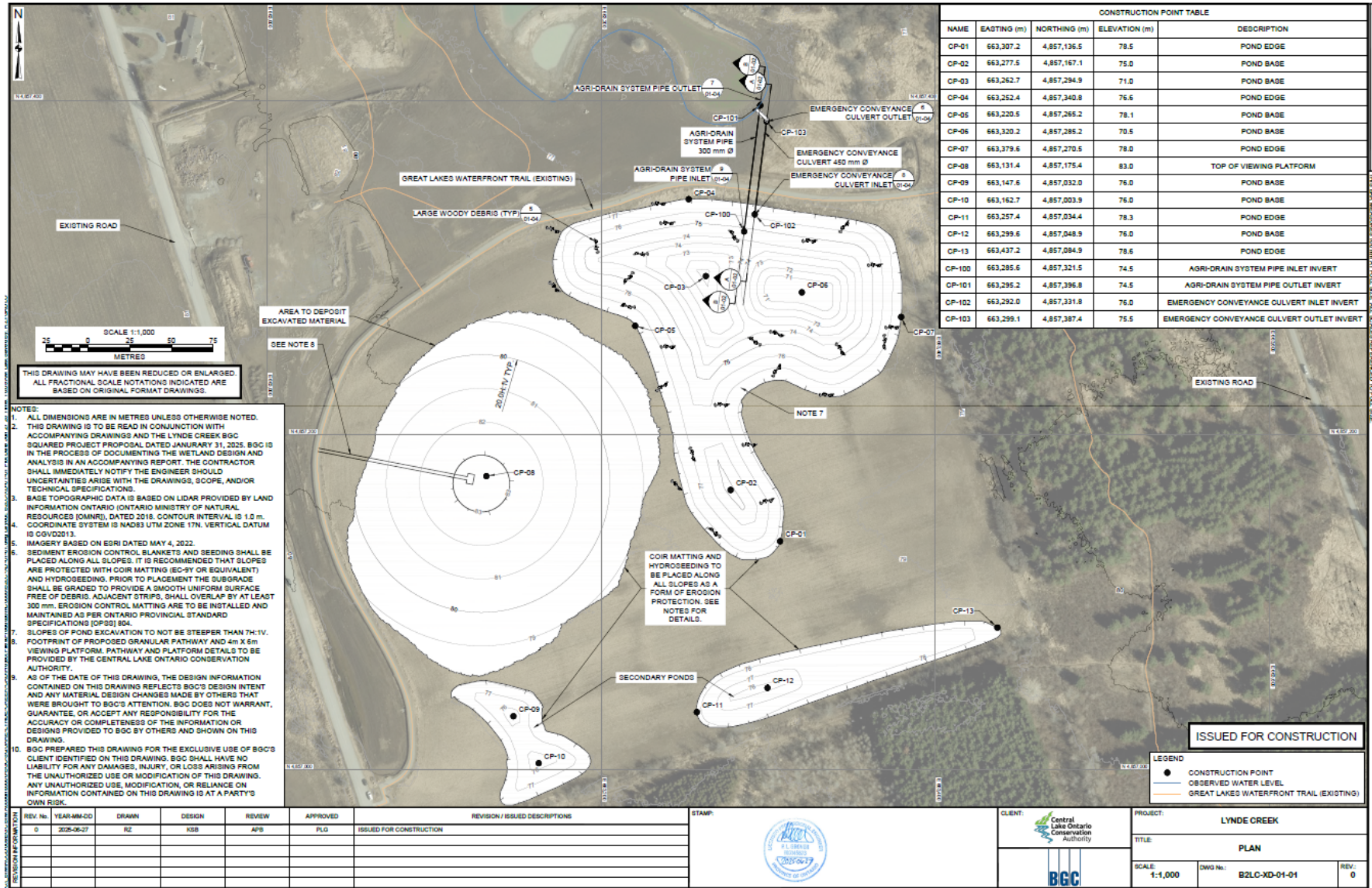


Figure 2: Design drawing for wetland restoration south.



RECOMMENDATIONS:

***THAT the Lynde Shores Wetland Creation Construction Contract (Tender CLOCA2025-1) be awarded to Vasq Ltd. at a cost not to exceed \$818,800 (excluding HST); and,
THAT staff be directed to execute a construction contract with Vasq Ltd.***

JD/DM/bb
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REPORT

CENTRAL LAKE ONTARIO CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

DATE: September 16, 2025

FILE: HREB9

S.R.: 5946-25

TO: Chair and Members, CLOCA Board of Directors

FROM: Jamie Davidson, Director, Watershed Planning & Natural Heritage
Roy Mosher, Restoration Coordinator

APPROVED BY C.A.O. 

SUBJECT: Durham TREES Program – Program expansion and New Funding for Phase 2

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Durham TREES Program and announce new funding support through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' (FCM) Growing Canada's Community Canopies (GCCC) initiative, which has been designed to support the planting of 1.2 million trees across Canada to achieve significant carbon sequestration and increase forest and community resilience to climate change. This new funding will allow the Durham TREES collaborative to expand services beyond the Afforestation model used in Phase 1 and introduce a new naturalization planting program stream. Together, these program enhancements will strengthen Durham's ability to achieve watershed and climate resilience goals.

Background

Phase 1 Success

The Durham TREES Program was initiated in 2021 as a collaboration between the Region of Durham and its five Conservation Authorities (CLOCA, GRCA, KRCA, LSRCA, TRCA) to address the Region's 2020 Climate Change Emergency Declaration, to advance the Durham Community Climate Adaptation Plan, and to implement conservation authority Watershed Plan recommendations.

During Phase 1 (2021–2024), Durham TREES planted 361,670 trees across Durham Region, exceeding the target of 270,000 trees by 30%. This total has increased to over 500,000 trees to date, including trees planted by the collaborative in 2025. These were primarily afforestation projects on rural lands using the large-scale planting of coniferous seedlings. This planting model is highly effective at quickly establishing new forest cover, and the success of Phase 1 generated significant environmental and social benefits, strengthened landowner partnerships, and attracted additional external funding from Forest Ontario's 50 Million Tree Program, the Highway of Heroes Campaign, One Tree Planted, and the World Wildlife Fund.

Program Expansion – Naturalization Stream

While the Afforestation model (whereby primarily coniferous tree seedlings are planted in rows with relatively close spacing in order to create new forest where currently none or very little exists) has proven successful, it also has limitations. Landowners frequently expressed interest in planting fewer than 500 trees or in establishing more biodiverse plantings, including deciduous trees and shrubs, to naturalize portions of their properties. The afforestation model has also been difficult for corporate landowners to access given their more limited space to accommodate this kind of work. These options were not previously available through Durham TREES, creating a service gap.

The recently announced Growing Canada's Community Canopies program by FCM offered an opportunity to address this gap. CLOCA, on behalf of the Durham TREES collaborative, submitted an application for funding to establish a new Naturalization planting service. This service will provide smaller-scale, more diverse planting projects using potted stock of native coniferous, deciduous, and shrub species. These plantings will enhance underutilized greenspaces, expand riparian buffers, increase biodiversity, and provide significant co-benefits such as reducing heat-island effects, improving water infiltration, and enhancing human health and well-being.

Cont'd

New Funding Announcement

In August 2025, Durham TREES was awarded \$300,000 over three years from FCM's Growing Canada's Community Canopies program. This funding will support the planting of 22,500 trees under the new Naturalization stream, expanding Durham TREES' service offering beyond large-scale afforestation and providing an opportunity to corporate landowners in the urban context to access the program.

The Region of Durham has also confirmed its continued support, committing approximately \$80,000 annually from 2025 to 2028 through the business planning and budgets process.

Together, the Afforestation and Naturalization streams will:

- Increase overall forest cover within Durham watersheds.
- Expand the Natural Heritage System.
- Increase biodiversity and habitat connectivity.
- Contribute to climate change mitigation by sequestering carbon and lowering atmospheric CO₂.
- Reduce heat island effects in urban and suburban areas.
- Support landowner participation by providing flexible options tailored to property size and stewardship goals.

Conclusion

The Durham TREES Program has been a highly successful collaboration, exceeding planting targets in Phase 1 and securing new funding to diversify and expand services for Phase 2. The addition of the Naturalization planting model, supported by FCM's Growing Canada's Community Canopies funding, will significantly broaden the program's reach and impact. By continuing to work with the Region of Durham and the five partner Conservation Authorities, Durham TREES will continue to enhance forest cover, biodiversity, and climate resilience across the region.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Staff Report #5946-25 be received for information.

REPORT

CENTRAL LAKE ONTARIO CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

DATE: September 16, 2025

FILE: AGRC41

S.R.: 5947-25

APPROVED BY C.A.O. 

TO: Chair and Members, CLOCA Board of Directors

FROM: Jamie Davidson, Director, Watershed Planning & Natural Heritage
Roy Mosher, Restoration Coordinator

SUBJECT: Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program – Marginal Lands

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board with an overview of the new Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program (RALP) that has been developed through a collaborative of the Region of Durham and its five partner conservation authorities. The collaborative was recently awarded \$300,000 from Conservation Ontario to implement the project over the next three years. The Program will provide a suite of services to assist Durham Region's agricultural producers in implementing Best Management Practices (BMPs) on the farm, with funding support recently secured through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP), which is a Federal-Provincial funded program partially administered by Conservation Ontario.

Background

Durham Region is part of the Golden Horseshoe, one of the largest food and farming clusters in North America. The Region produces more than \$300 million annually in farm production, supporting the livelihoods of over 1,400 farming families and generating employment across the community. Agriculture in Durham is diverse, as is the landscape that it takes place in.

This diversity within the sector supports a wide range of potential stewardship practices to maintain productivity while advancing environmental sustainability on marginal lands that already exist within their current operations. At the same time, farmland in Durham continues to decline, from 373,611 acres in 1981 to 297,709 acres in 2011, heightening the need to maximize agricultural output in environmentally responsible ways.

In February 2025, Conservation Ontario issued a Request for Proposals under the Sustainable CAP program seeking projects that would enhance natural features on marginal agricultural lands to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, sequester carbon, and expand ecological goods and services. CLOCA, recognizing the opportunity to support Durham's farm community, led the development of a collaborative application on behalf of the five Conservation Authorities serving the Region, using the existing Durham TREES collaborative program model as a template.

In August 2025, the collaborative was approved for \$300,000 in funding over three years to support delivery of the RALP. CLOCA, in partnership with Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority, Lake Simcoe and Region Conservation Authority, and Kawartha Conservation, will administer the Program throughout Durham Region. CLOCA will administer the newly awarded program funding on behalf of the collaborative. The collaborative is in the process of developing a marketing and communications plan with the primary goal of assisting landowners both technically and financially to restore marginal farmland through the adoption of BMPs over the next three years.

Program Overview

Eligible Best Management Practices under RALP will include:

- Strip planting – creating vegetated buffers to retain soil moisture, reduce erosion, and minimize salinization.

- Native grassland establishment – converting marginal land to diverse native habitats that support pollinators, birds, and beneficial wildlife while improving soil health.
- Riparian buffer planting – stabilizing streambanks, filtering runoff, and enhancing wildlife corridors.
- Windbreaks and shelterbelts – reducing wind damage, improving soil moisture retention, protecting crops and livestock, and enhancing winter road safety.
- Wetland restoration – improving water quality, providing habitat, offering flood storage, and sequestering carbon.
- Pollinator strip planting and other practices that provide direct on-farm and ecological benefits.

Conclusion

Durham's agricultural sector is a cornerstone of the Region's economy and community identity, yet it continues to face pressure from urbanization, rising costs, and climate change. The Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program provides a significant opportunity to strengthen partnerships with the farm community while advancing ecological sustainability. Through collaborative delivery by the five Conservation Authorities in Durham Region, RALP will help agricultural producers both technically and financially to implement practical and effective BMPs, with the goal of restoring marginal farmland and contributing to soil health, water quality, biodiversity, and climate resilience across the Region.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Staff Report #5947-25 be received for information.

DATE: September 16, 2025
FILE: ACCP3
S.R.: 5948-25
TO: Chair and Members, CLOCA Board of Directors
FROM: Dan Hope, Director, Land Operations & Education
SUBJECT: **Building Relationships – Canecrest Sweat Lodge**

APPROVED BY C.A.O. 

This report provides an update of upcoming relationship building event with indigenous community.

CLOCA's "Building Relationships Working Group (BRWG)" officially formed in 2024 and has been making great strides toward relationship building with indigenous community. In addition to several CLOCA staff, members of this working group include Ron Leaman (Director, Bawaajigewin), Debbie Pearson (Skybear), Director, Bawaajigewin and Jeff Forbes, Councillor, Mississauga Scugog Island First Nation. In meetings with indigenous community representatives, it was recognized that not only is there much symmetry in the work that we do, but there is also a mutual passion and respect for natural spaces.

The Durham Community Health Centre (DCHC, formerly CAREA) are a local community - based organization that offer programs and coordinate events for indigenous people, as well as youth and seniors. Through discussions with the BRWG and meetings with the Durham Community Health Centre, Indigenous Health Promoter James Costello, it was learned that indigenous communities are seeking "safe, clean, natural settings" for ceremony. Sacred ceremonies are used by indigenous peoples to communicate with spirits, as well as heal and connect with ancestors. As the Working Group learned, there are many types of ceremonies including sweat lodges (where purification rituals are performed), winter solstice (renewal of sun and new year), funeral practices, seasonal celebrations (ie. Full moon ceremony, sunrise ceremony etc.).

CLOCA brings community together to enjoy natural spaces and our Strategic Plan core values identify that we strive for excellence and collaborate with our partners to build relationships. We unite community and "lead by example and inspire others to do the same."

We are honoured to announce that we will be working with our BRWG members, as well as DCHC and Bawaajigewin to further relationship building with the indigenous community by offering the "Canecrest Tract" as a location for a sweat lodge / fasting location that will be run this Fall season (refer to attached map of the Canecrest location). Groups benefitting from this relationship will be indigenous youth, adults, elders, traditional healers, helpers, ceremonialist and allies of indigenous peoples.

DCHC provides a description of a "fasting ceremony" as follows:

Fasting is one of the many ceremonies that has been practiced in First Nations communities for thousands of years. In the past, the Elders of a community would take the young people out to fast to help them find their direction in life. Today, as our cultural traditions and ways of healing are being revived in our communities, more Indigenous people are seeking answers through the ceremony of fasting.

Reasons for going on a fast

When you choose to go on a fast, it is with a purpose in mind. You may go out to seek direction in your life or you may go out to learn more about our ways and about Creation. You may also fast for your spirit name and colours. Healers may fast to find and gain permission to use a certain plant medicine. You may fast for many other reasons. Whatever the reason for your fast, you prepare yourself beforehand through prayer and tobacco. It is said that when you fast you are sacrificing yourself for all, for your family and for your community, by denying yourself the basic comforts of shelter, water, nourishment and companionship. The most significant factor is to visit our First Family, Mother Earth and all its Sacred Beings, Helpers and Guides (animals, trees, water etc.).

Different Places and Ways Fasts are Conducted

Fasts are conducted in many ways and in many different places. You may be put out to fast deep in the woods, in a field, or on an island or mountain. Fasters may stay in a fasting lodge that they themselves have constructed of saplings and tarps, they may sit on a platform under a tree with a tarpaulin to keep them dry if it rains, or they may stay in a fasting hut or tent. Wherever they spend their one, two, three or more days fasting, they will bring with them the medicines - tobacco, cedar, sage, sweetgrass or other plant medicines that may be used in their region and sacred items like a drum, pipe, smudge bowl, feathers and ribbons of their colours.

Spring and fall are generally the times for fasting. Some teachings say that you fast in the fall to take away negative energy and you fast in the spring to replenish yourself with new energy. Healers and Elders say that fasting has a cleansing and healing effect. Fasting has also been described as a healing way where the first person we face when we fast is ourselves. People may fast either in the spring or fall each year. Offerings are made before the fast. This may be food offerings as well as tobacco. Very often, fasters will go into the sweat lodge before they are taken out to their fasting spot and later, when they are brought in from their fast. The fasting conductor lets the fasters know the duration of their fast through the connection he or she has with the spirit world.

Firekeepers tend the sacred fire at the base camp for the duration of your fast. The person who has put you out on your fast looks after you while you are out. Your fasting site might be encircled with cedar and with tobacco ties. You might build a sacred fire at your site where you offer your tobacco. However, your fasting site is set up, you are in the care of Mother Earth and our First Family.

Fasting Experiences

Everything you see on a fast is important, even the little bugs around your fasting area. You may find yourself feeling closer to the sky world than you have ever felt before when the sacred light from the moon and stars brighten the night sky. You may gain an increased awareness of the beauty of the natural world, our First Family. Your dreams and visions are all part of the journey. It is said that fasting brings you closer to the spirit world and that your spirit wakes up when you are on a fast. You may feel that the questions you were asking have been answered. When you are on your fast, you have your sacred items with you - your drum so that you can sing the traditional songs you have learned and the sacred medicines to help you in your prayers. It is said that when you call on the spirits with a song, they will hear it and come to help you.

Ending a "fast"

At the end of a fast, when the person who has taken you out for your fast comes to get you, you may be taken into a sweat lodge where you could talk about your fasting experience. Your fast may end by drinking spring water or cedar water and berries. A Traditional Feast is prepared for the fasters in celebration of the spiritual journey the fasters have experienced.

Fasting conductors

The conductor of fasts has been trained and has earned the right to take people out on a fast. The conductor does this in a certain way, in the way that he or she has been taught. The conductor of a fast must carry the Traditional teachings of the fast they are taking people out on. The fasting conductor should be informed of any health condition you have before you go out on a fast. The conductor of a fast watches over the physical and spiritual well-being of the fasters whom he or she takes out to fast. The conductor of a fast should be able to interpret the dreams, visions and gifts that have come to you and to offer guidance about your fasting experience.

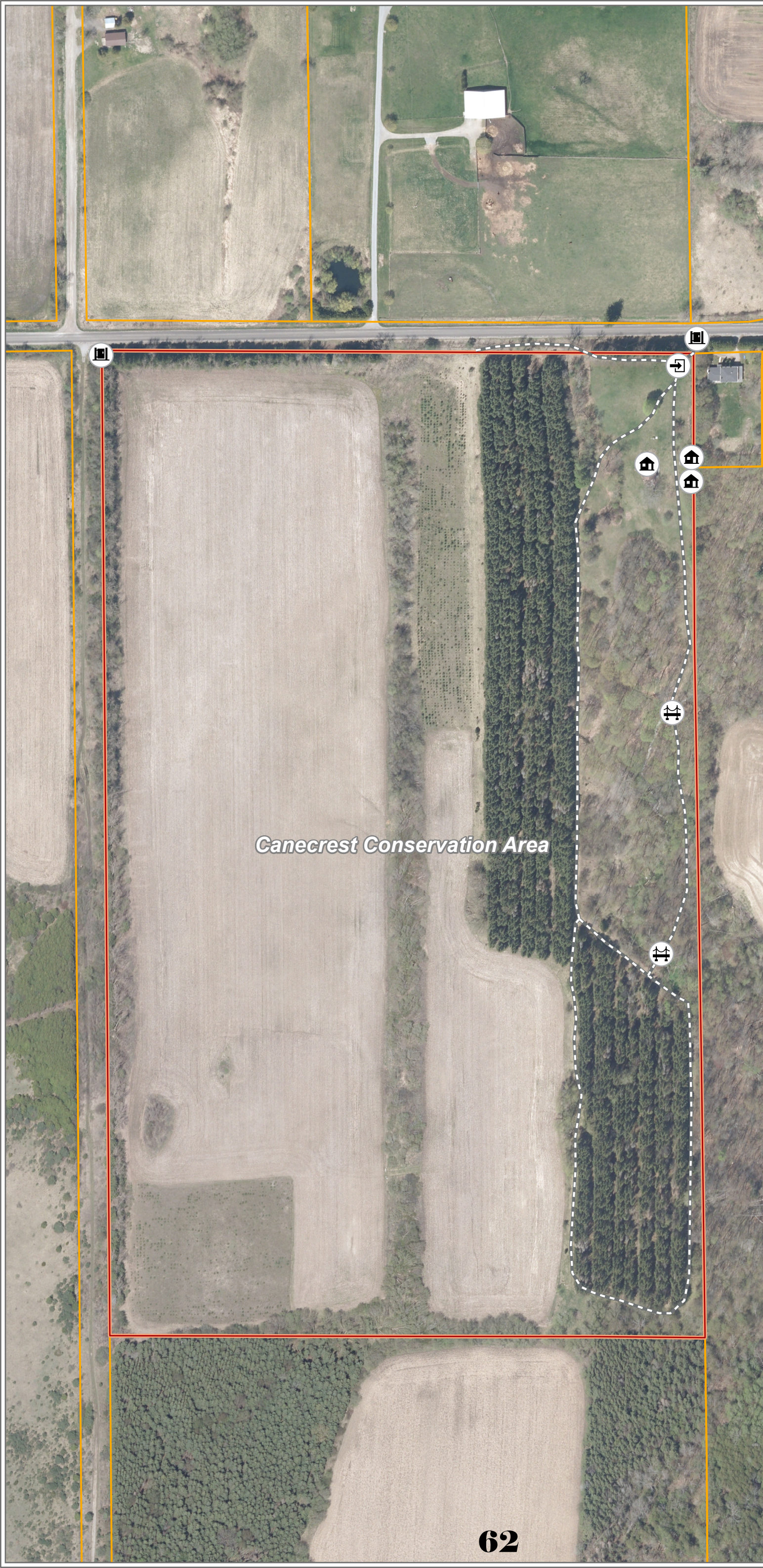
Purpose and spiritual significance

Fasting is a path for spiritual growth through connection to the land and the environment, allowing individuals to gain clarity and receive spiritual guidance from Creation. While traditions are being revived, participants highlight the profound personal transformation and community healing that can result from this commitment to the ceremony. This ceremony has become a wonderful means of healing and reconciliation for Indigenous peoples and others.

RECOMMENDATION:

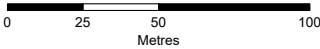
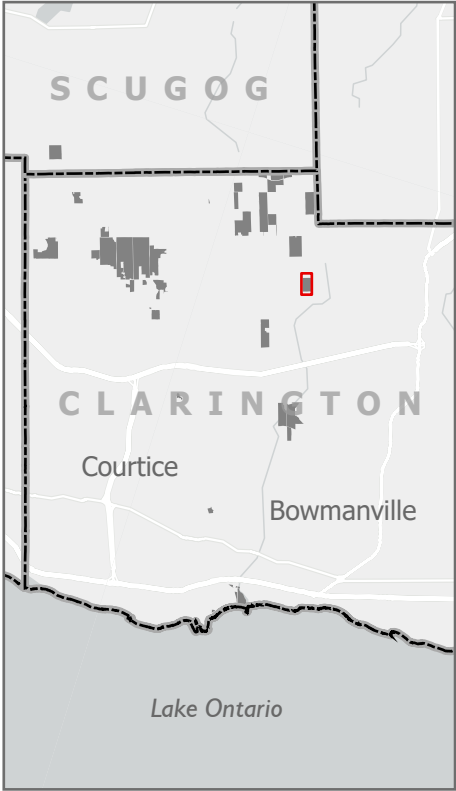
THAT Staff Report #5948-25 be received for information.

Attach.



- Legend**
- Bridge
 - Building
 - Gate
 - Main Entrance Sign
 - Canecrest Property
 - Assessment Parcel
 - Unsanctioned Trail

Canecrest Conservation Area



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Map Compiled by the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority, 100 Whiting Ave., Oshawa, Ontario, L1H 3T3

This map is for information purposes only and the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority takes no responsibility for, nor guarantees, the accuracy of all the information contained within the map.

Source: CLOCA, 2025; Regional Municipality of Durham, 2025; MNR, 2025, Orthophoto: April 2024.

Projection: NORTH AMERICAN DATUM 1983 UNIVERSAL TRANSVERSE MERCATOR (6 DEGREES) PROJECTION, ZONE 17, CENTRAL MERIDIAN (81 DEGREES WEST)

Date Printed: September 9, 2025



DATE: September 16, 2025

FILE: APOA19

APPROVED BY C.A.O. 

S.R.: 5942-25

TO: Chair and Members, CLOCA Board of Directors

FROM: Rose Catulli, Director, Corporate Services
Rod Wilmot, Information Management & Technology Manager

SUBJECT: Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) – Responsible Use Policy

Artificial Intelligence (AI) refers to systems that simulate human intelligence, encompassing reasoning, learning, and problem-solving capabilities. Generative AI (GenAI) is a type of AI that can create new content such as text, images, audio, video, or code in response to user prompts.

CLOCA recognizes the potential of GENAI to enhance operations, improve efficiency, and support learning. However, its uses also present risks relating to data security, privacy, bias, transparency, and ethics. The Generative Artificial Intelligence (GENAI) - Responsible Use Policy establishes the framework for responsible GENAI use at CLOCA.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the attached Generative Artificial Intelligence (GENAI) Policy be approved.

Attach: Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) – Responsible Use Policy

Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) Responsible Use Policy



September 16, 2025
APOA19

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1. Introduction

Artificial Intelligence (AI) refers to systems that simulate human intelligence, including reasoning, learning, and problem-solving. Generative AI (GenAI) is a type of AI that can create new content such as text, images, audio, video, or code in response to user prompts.

CLOCA recognizes the potential of GenAI to enhance operations, improve efficiency, and support learning. However, its use also presents risks relating to data security, privacy, bias, transparency, and ethics. This policy establishes the framework for responsible GenAI use at CLOCA.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure CLOCA staff, contractors, and partners use GenAI responsibly, securely, and ethically, in compliance with applicable legislation and CLOCA's organizational values.

3. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All CLOCA employees, contractors, students, and volunteers.
- Any work-related use of GenAI, whether on CLOCA-owned or personal devices.
- All CLOCA data, records, and communications that may intersect with GenAI use.

4. Policy Statement

CLOCA supports the responsible exploration of GenAI tools where appropriate, but:

- GenAI must never replace human decision-making in regulatory, permitting, planning, or funding contexts.
- All outputs require human oversight, validation, and accountability.
- CLOCA is committed to protecting confidentiality, privacy, intellectual property, and public trust.

5. Approved Tools

- Microsoft Copilot (Web) is the approved CLOCA GenAI tool.
- Any use of non-approved GenAI tools must be pre-approved through a Technology Solutions Request with the Corporate Services IT Team.

6. Guiding Principles

When using GenAI, staff must follow these principles:

a) Data Security

- Do not input confidential, internal, or sensitive data into GenAI.
- Only use information classified as public.
- Personal information (images, video, voice recordings, identifiers) must not be used unless required by law (MFIPPA, PHIPA, PIPEDA) and with written consent.
- Respect contractual obligations regarding third-party or commercially confidential data.

b) Accountability & Transparency

- Staff are responsible for verifying all outputs for accuracy, fairness, and legality.
- GenAI involvement must be disclosed where appropriate.
- Output that contributes to CLOCA's records must be documented as Official Business Records (OBRs).

c) **Equity & Inclusiveness**

- Ensure content is free from bias, discrimination, or stereotypes.
- Apply CLOCA's accessibility and inclusivity standards.

d) **Validity, Trust & Reliability**

- Verify outputs against authoritative sources (e.g., Ontario legislation, CLOCA policies, peer-reviewed science).
- Never rely on GenAI as the sole source of information for significant business decisions.

e) **Human-Centric Use**

- GenAI supports — but does not replace — staff expertise and judgment.
- All decisions remain the responsibility of human staff.

7. Acceptable Uses

Examples of responsible GenAI use at CLOCA include:

- Drafting outlines, presentations, meeting notes, and communications.
- Editing for clarity, plain language, and inclusiveness.
- Summarizing documents or articles for internal understanding.
- Brainstorming ideas or creating draft images for presentations.
- Assisting with code generation.
- Acting as an AI agent to support client interactions by answering routine questions, providing clear information, and improving overall service delivery.
- Improving internal workflows and information access by streamlining tasks, enhancing collaboration, and supporting content discovery.

All uses of GenAI are subject to staff oversight, verification, and approval to ensure accuracy, accountability, and alignment with CLOCA standards.

8. Prohibited Uses

GenAI must **not** be used for:

- Regulatory, permitting, or funding decisions.
- Legal, policy, or scientific advice.
- Fact-checking without independent verification.
- Processing datasets containing personal or confidential information.
- Emergency public communications without full human review.
- Creating deceptive, harmful, misleading, or unethical content.

9. Security Best Practices

To reduce risks, staff must:

- Never upload or disclose confidential or regulated data without approval.
- Protect CLOCA accounts, logins, and credentials from unauthorized GenAI use.
- Ensure AI-generated code or content is reviewed and tested before deployment.
- Recognize and mitigate risks of "AI hallucinations" (plausible but false outputs).

10. Legal & Ethical Compliance

All staff must:

- Comply with MFIPPA, PHIPA, PIPEDA, copyright, and intellectual property laws.
- Avoid generating harmful, malicious, or illegal content.
- Cite use of GenAI tools when required by law, contract, or best practice.
- Accept accountability for outputs created with GenAI.

11. Risk Management

- Departments must assess and record risks of GenAI use in their risk registers.
- Use of GenAI should be periodically reviewed to ensure compliance and appropriateness.

12. Enforcement

- Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment or contract.
- Staff uncertain about acceptable use must seek clarification from their supervisor or the Corporate Services IT Team before proceeding.

13. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by CLOCA's Corporate Services IT Team in consultation with management to reflect evolving technology, legislation, and organizational needs.