



Board Meeting Highlights

February 28, 2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a) CAO Mike Walters thanked the many Board members who attended the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks consultation held in Barrie on February 7th, noting it was a productive meeting and he was pleased to see that all presentations were supportive of the work of conservation authorities.

PRESENTATIONS:

a) **Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority**

Integrated Watershed Management Specialist, Kaitlyn Read, provided an overview of the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, noting there is no doubt that our climate is changing, and we have the data to show it. To ensure LSRCA's approach to climate change adaptation is strategic and targeted, the development of a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy was identified as a priority action to achieve Goal 2 of LSRCA's 2016-2020 Strategic Plan – to improve knowledge and increase certainty through excellence in research and scientific knowledge. The Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for LSRCA forms part of a larger LSRCA initiative to address climate change, including a corporate Carbon Reduction Strategy and a Climate Change Mitigation Strategy for the watershed.

The Climate Change Adaptation Strategy was initiated in 2016 and involved a series of steps; including, downscaling the global climate projections to the Lake Simcoe watershed; reviewing LSRCA's monitoring data and technical reports to determine the vulnerability of the watershed to projected future climate; and identifying recommendations for action. All this material was compiled into the technical chapters in the Strategy. At the outset of the project, an internal working group was formed to guide the overall direction of the strategy, as well as to review technical content and assist in developing recommendations. This working group consisted of representatives from a number of LSRCA's departments, as well as external stakeholders from Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation, Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks (MECP), Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), Simcoe Muskoka District and York Region public health agencies, watershed municipalities, and neighbouring conservation authorities.

The overall objective of the strategy was to assess the potential impacts of a changing climate on watershed function and to recommend ways that LSRCA programs and services can adapt to ensure

they remain effective at protecting the Lake Simcoe watershed in projected future climates. To achieve this, a total of 36 recommendations were developed, falling under the following four goals:

1. To ensure that people, properties and communities remain sufficiently protected as climate conditions change.
2. To increase watershed resistance and resilience to climate change through conservation, restoration, and improvement of natural ecosystems.
3. To enhance knowledge of the watershed's natural environment and its response to a changing climate through science and monitoring for informed and adaptive decision-making; and
4. To facilitate partnerships and connect people to the watershed in order to build awareness and capacity to adapt to a changing climate in the Lake Simcoe watershed.

Implementation of the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy will be achieved through the development of an implementation plan, which will identify actions, responsibilities and timelines. Adaptive management will also be applied to track the progress and effectiveness of recommendations and to modify as required. For additional information on the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for LSRCA, please contact Kaitlyn Read @ k.read@lsrca.on.ca or 905-895-1281 ext 148.

To view this presentation, please click this link: [Climate Change Adaptation Strategy Presentation](#). To view the Strategy, please click this link: [Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for LSRCA](#).

CORRESPONDENCE AND STAFF REPORTS:

Correspondence

- a) The Board received the January 30th letter from the Township of Uxbridge regarding support for the continuation of programs and services delivered by conservation authorities.
- b) The Board received the February 14th letter from the Town of New Tecumseth regarding support for the continuation of programs and services delivered by conservation authorities.

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

The Board approved Staff Report No. 02-20-BOD, prepared by Integrated Watershed Management Specialist, Kaitlyn Read, which sought the Board's approval of the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority.

Board Member Appointment – Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation

The Board received Staff Report No. 03-20-BOD, prepared by Chief Administrative Officer, Mike Walters, which sought an alternate representative for the Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation (LSCF) Board of Directors for 2020 due to a scheduling conflict for Chair Emmerson. Newmarket Regional Councillor Tom Vegh was appointed to sit on the LSCF Board of Directors in place of Chair Emmerson.

Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act: Annual Statistical Report 2019

The Board received Staff Report No. 04-20-BOD, prepared by Shelley Fogelman, Senior Administrative Assistant, Corporate & Financial Services, which provided the Board with a summary of *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* – Annual Statistical Report for 2019.

Monitoring Report – Planning and Development Applications - January 1 to December 31, 2019

The Board received Staff Report No. 05-20-BOD, prepared by Ashlea Brown, Acting Director, Regulations, and Melinda Bessey, Acting Director, Planning, which provided a summary of planning and development applications for the period January 1 through December 31, 2019.

LSRCA Land Disposition Policy for Municipal Infrastructure and Other Project Considerations

The Board approved Staff Report No. 06-20-BOD, prepared by Land Securement Officer, Kevin Kennedy, which provided the Board with an updated Land Disposition Policy for Municipal Infrastructure and Other Project Consideration.

Update on Pre-qualification of Restoration Consultants and Contractors

The Board approved Staff Report No. 07-20-BOD, prepared by Restoration Program Coordinator, Christa Sharp, regarding prequalification of consultants and construction services for Low Impact Development Retrofit projects and for Natural Heritage Restoration Projects.

For more information or to see the full agenda package, please click the link below for LSRCA's Board of Directors' webpage: <https://www.lsrca.on.ca/Pages/Board-Meetings.aspx>