

Board Meeting Highlights

December 15, 2023

Announcements:

- a) General Manager, Integrated Watershed Management, Don Goodyear was pleased to advise that on November 30th, two staff members, Julia Marko and Emma Dias, hosted a well-received workshop for municipal planning staff on Bill 23 impacts to natural heritage review. The workshop was well attended with about 50 people representing 14 watershed municipalities.
- b) CAO Rob Baldwin thanked the Communications team for the successful migration and launch of the Conservation Authority's new website, noting this unexpected change in website host necessitated the migration of all website material to a new host.
- c) CAO Rob Baldwin advised that he, Chair Emmerson and Chief of Staff, Trish Barnett, had a very productive virtual meeting with Minister Khanjin recently, where items such as salt and source protection were discussed.
- d) CAO Rob Baldwin advised that two letters were recently received from the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry; namely, one granting an extension to March 31, 2024 for the cost apportioning agreements with participating municipalities; and the other notifying of an extension of the Minister's direction on the Planning, Development and Permitting fees freeze to the end of 2024.

Deputations:

Mr. Michael Jacobs regarding Georgina Island Fixed Link Project

Mr. Michael Jacobs, Fixed Link Project Manager and Georgina Island Fixed Link Secretariat, made a deputation regarding the Georgina Island Fixed Link project. He shared the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation Council Resolution of February 2021; namely, their intent to build a Fixed Link that will connect Georgina Island to the mainland; their desire to complete the Impact Assessment by December 31, 2024; and their intent to have the Fixed Link operational by December 31, 2026. He reviewed the project timelines, as well as the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada process and comments received. From comments received, the Georgina Island First Nation have invested in an improved project understanding. He reviewed some of these investments and learnings. He overviewed other work in progress, such as a seven generations financial assessment, nation to nation negotiations and additional research to support engagement requests.

Based on their learnings, Georgina Island Fixed Link has better defined its development assumption, and he shared a map of the path to connect. He then outlined the upcoming

engagement plans. In closing Mr. Jacobs noted that Georgina Island First Nation have invested time and money to understand the project and its impacts on the community and the natural world.

To view this presentation, please follow this link: [Georgina Island Fixed Link Project Update](#)

Correspondence and Staff Reports:

Correspondence

The Board the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's letter dated November 17, 2023 to Minister Khanjin and Lake Simcoe Watershed MPPs regarding Winter Salt Management.

Georgina Island Fixed Link Project Update

The Board received Staff Report No. 62-23-BOD regarding an update on the Conservation Authority's review of and involvement in the Georgina Island Fixed Link project.

New Nature Centre at Scanlon Creek Conservation Area – Project and Funding Progress Report

The Board received Staff Report No. 63-23-BOD regarding project and funding updates on the new Nature Centre at Scanlon Creek Conservation Area.

New Nature Centre Project: Temporary Utilization of Offsetting Reserves if Required

The Board received Staff Report No. 64-23-BOD regarding temporary funding utilizing Offsetting Reserves for the new Nature Centre and approved the use of the Offsetting Reserves if required to act as a funding backstop as outlined in this report.

Framework to Limit Liability for Winter Maintenance Contractors Employing Best Practices

The Board received Staff Report No. 65-23-BOD regarding a framework to limit liability for winter maintenance contractors employing best practices and directed staff to circulate this report and the attached template resolution to watershed municipalities.

For more information or to see the full agenda package, visit
<https://lsrca.on.ca/index.php/board-meetings/>