



Lake Simcoe Region
conservation authority

Board of Directors

Meeting No. BOD-04-25

Friday, July 25, 2025

9:00 a.m.

Agenda

Meeting Location:

120 Bayview Parkway, Newmarket

Minutes and agendas are available at www.lsrca.on.ca

Upcoming Events

Board of Directors' Meeting

Friday, September 27, 2025

120 Bayview Parkway, Newmarket

Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation

6th Annual Invitational Golf Tournament

Monday, August 25, 2025

Eagles Nest Golf Club

<https://lakesimcoefoundation.ca/event/lscf-invitational-golf-tournament/>

A full listing of events can be found at www.lsrca.on.ca.

I. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory

II. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest or Conflict of Interest

III. Approval of Agenda

Pages 1 - 7

Recommended: That the content of the Agenda for the July 25, 2025 meeting of the Board of Directors be approved as presented.

IV. Adoption of Minutes

a) Board of Directors

Pages 8 - 17

Included in the agenda is a copy of the minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting, No. BOD-03-25, held on Friday, May 23, 2025.

Recommended: That the minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting, No. BOD-03-25, held on Friday, May 23, 2025, be approved as circulated.

V. Announcements

VI. Presentations

a) Second Quarter 2025 Financial Report and Forecast

Pages 18 - 30

General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO, Mark Critch, will provide an overview of the Second Quarter 2025 Financial Report and Year-end Forecast. This presentation will be provided at the meeting and will be available on the Conservation Authority's website following the meeting.

Recommended: That the presentation by General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO, Mark Critch, on the Second Quarter 2025 Financial Report and Year-end Forecast be received for information.

Staff Report No. 22-25-BOD regarding the Second Quarter 2025 Financial Report and Year-end Forecast is included in the agenda.

Recommended: That the Staff Report No. 22-25-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's Second Quarter 2025 Financial Report and Year-end Forecast be received for information.

b) Lake Simcoe Conservation Preserve Update

Pages 31 - 37

Lands Management Technician, Lauren Grzywniak, will provide an update on activities surrounding the Conservation Authority's property, the Lake Simcoe Conservation Preserve. This presentation will be provided at the meeting and will be available on the Conservation Authority's website following the meeting.

Recommended: That the presentation by Lands Management Technician, Lauren Grzywniak, regarding an update on activities surrounding the Conservation Authority's property, the Lake Simcoe Conservation Preserve be received for information.

Staff Report No. 23-25-BOD regarding the Lake Simcoe Conservation Preserve is included in the agenda.

Recommended: That the Staff Report No. 23-25-BOD regarding an update on community engagement activities to inform the development of a long-term Comprehensive Stewardship Plan for the Lake Simcoe Conservation Preserve be received for information.

VII. Hearings

There are no Hearings scheduled for this meeting.

VIII. Deputations

There are no Deputations scheduled for this meeting.

IX. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

(Reference Pages 5 to 7 of the agenda)

X. Adoption of Items not Requiring Separate Discussion**XI. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion****XII. Closed Session**

The Board will move to Closed Session to deal with confidential legal matters.

Recommended: That the Board move to Closed Session to deal with confidential legal matters; and

Further that the Chief Administrative Officer, members of the Executive Leadership Team, and the Communications Advisor remain in the meeting for the discussion on Item a); and

Further that the Chief Administrative Officer and members of the Executive Leadership Team remain in the meeting for the discussion on Items b) and c).

The Board will rise from Closed Session and report findings.

Recommended: That the Board rise from Closed Session and report findings.

a) Confidential Conservation Awards Recipients

Confidential Staff Report No. 28-25-BOD will be sent to Board members prior to the meeting.

Recommended: That Confidential Staff Report No. 28-25-BOD regarding the recipients of the 2025 Conservation Awards be received; and

Further that the recommendations contained within the staff report be approved.

b) Confidential Legal Matter

Confidential Staff Report No. 29-25-BOD will be sent to Board members prior to the meeting.

Recommended: That Confidential Staff Report No. 29-25-BOD regarding a confidential legal matter be received for information.

c) Confidential Legal Matter

Confidential Staff Report No. 30-25-BOD will be sent to Board members prior to the meeting.

Recommended: That Confidential Staff Report No. 30-25-BOD regarding a confidential legal matter be received for information.

XIII. Other Business

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Friday, September 26, 2025. This meeting will be held in person at the Conservation Authority's Newmarket offices located at 120 Bayview Parkway, Newmarket.

XIV. Adjournment

Agenda Items

1. Correspondence

Pages 38 - 39

- a) A copy of the Province of Ontario News Release entitled "Ontario Taking Action to Make Conservation Authorities More Effective"

Recommended: That Correspondence item a) be received for information.

2. Recommendation for Winter Road and Parking Lot management

Pages 40 - 43

Recommended: That Staff Report No. 24-25-BOD regarding recommendations for winter road and parking lot maintenance be received and the following resolution adopted:

Whereas: Chloride concentrations measured in Lake Simcoe have steadily increased since the 1970's and, if unchecked, could exceed the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment Chronic Guideline by approximately 2069; and

Whereas: Chloride concentrations in urban tributaries are routinely above that Chronic Guideline, occasionally above the Acute Guideline and have recently exceeded the concentration of ocean water in one urban tributary, and continue to increase everywhere due to the use of winter salt on roads and parking lots; and

Whereas: These concentrations are lethal to some species of fish and benthic invertebrates, and decreasing the amount of winter salt use throughout the watershed is critical to the near-term health of urban tributaries and long-term health of Lake Simcoe; and

Whereas: A barrier to the reduction of salt application for parking lots and walkways is the scarcity of trained and certified winter maintenance contractors; and

Whereas: A more substantial barrier to the reduction of salt application for parking lots and walkways is concern over liability; and

Whereas: Businesses in the winter maintenance sector are seeing insurance and legal costs escalate to the point where many have failed, and some property owners have been unable to find winter maintenance contractors; and

Whereas: The limited liability framework in practice in New Hampshire is based on the Canadian Smart About Salt guidelines and has been successfully defended in the higher courts.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors requests that the Attorney General of Ontario and the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks establish and fund an expert stakeholder advisory committee to advise the Province and municipalities on the best courses of action to protect freshwater ecosystems and drinking water from the impacts of salt pollution; and

Further That the Board of Directors requests that technical standards and a Provincial regulatory framework be established that limits liability for winter maintenance contractors following best practices to ensure public safety, business sustainability, and environmental protection; and

Further That municipalities in the Lake Simcoe watershed lead by example by ensuring staff and/or winter maintenance contractors that maintain municipal parking lots obtain certification through the Smart About Salt program as a condition of working for the municipality; and

Further That this resolution be circulated to Lake Simcoe watershed municipalities and Lake Simcoe watershed members of Provincial Parliament; and

Further That municipalities in the Lake Simcoe watershed implement best management practices for municipal roads management; and

Further That municipalities in the Lake Simcoe watershed collaborate with the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority on an outreach campaign to raise awareness of this issue, manage expectations from the public regarding salt usage, and inspire positive action.

3. Summary of 2025 Provincial and Municipal Funding Agreements

Pages 44 - 47

Recommended: That Staff Report No. 25-25-BOD regarding recently secured Provincial and municipal funding be received for information.

4. 2025 Annual Priorities – Mid-year Status Update

Pages 48 - 54

Recommended: That Staff Report No. 26-25-BOD regarding the Mid-year Status of the Conservation Authority's 2025 Annual Priorities be received for information.

5. Monitoring Report – Planning and Development Applications for the Period January 1 through June 30, 2025

Pages 55 - 62

Recommended: That Staff Report No. 27-25-BOD regarding monitoring of development services applications for the period January 1 through June 30, 2025 be received for information.

Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

Board of Directors' Meeting

Board of Directors' Meeting No. BOD-03-25

Friday, May 23, 2025

120 Bayview Parkway, Newmarket

Meeting Minutes

Members Present

Councillor C. Riepma (Chair), Mayor R. Greenlaw (Vice Chair), Councillor A. Courser, Councillor F. Drodge, Councillor A. Eek, Councillor P. Ferragine, Regional Councillor B. Garrod, Councillor J. Gough, Councillor S. Harrison-McIntyre, Councillor D. Le Roy, Mayor I. Lovatt, Councillor C. Pettingill, Mayor M. Quirk, Councillor Roy-DiClemente, Deputy Mayor and Regional Councillor T. Vegh,

Members Absent

Regional Chairman E. Jolliffe, Councillor M. Thompson, Councillor E. Yeo

Staff Present

R. Baldwin, T. Barnett, A. Brown, S. Connor, M. Critch, A. Cullen, P. Davies, K. Goodale, D. Goodyear, N. Hamley, K. Hillis, D. Lembcke, G. MacMillan, G. Peat, C. Sharp, C. Taylor, B. Thompson, K. Toffan, M. Touw, K. Yemm

I. Land Acknowledgement

Regional Councillor Garrod acknowledged the Lake Simcoe watershed as traditional Indigenous territory and thanked all generations of Indigenous peoples for their enduring and unwavering care for this land and water.

II. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest or Conflict of Interest

None noted for the meeting.

III. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: A. Courser

Seconded by: A. Eek

BOD-045-25 **Resolved That** the content of the Agenda for the May 23, 2025 meeting of the Board of Directors be approved as presented. **Carried**

IV. Adoption of Minutes

a) Board of Directors' Meeting

Moved by: M. Quirk

Seconded by: B. Garrod

BOD-046-25 **Resolved That** the minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting, No. BOD-02-25, held on Friday, March 28, 2025 be approved as amended to reflect a wording change on Page 5 regarding the Correspondence discussion. **Carried**

V. Announcements

There were no Announcements for this meeting.

VI. Presentations

a) 2024 Draft Audited Financial Statement

The Conservation Authority's auditor, Mr. Adam Delle Cese of BDO Canada LLP, was in attendance and provided an overview of the Conservation Authority's 2024 Audit and 2024 Draft Audited Financial Statements. He advised that BDO Canada LLP has audited the Conservation Authority's financial statements, which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2024, and the statements of operations, changes in net financial assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. He went on to note that it is the opinion of BDO that financial statements included in the agenda present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority as at December 31, 2024, and its results of operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Moved by: C. Pettingill

Seconded by: S. Harrison-McIntyre

BOD-047-25 **Resolved That** the presentation by Mr. Adam Delle Cese of BDO Canada LLP regarding the Conservation Authority's 2024 Audit and 2024 Draft Audited Financial Statements be received for information. **Carried**

Included in the agenda was Staff Report No. 15-25-BOD regarding Conservation Authority's 2024 Draft Audited Financial Statements.

Moved by: C. Pettingill

Seconded by: S. Harrison-McIntyre

BOD-048-25 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 15-25-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's 2024 Draft Audited Financial Statements be received; and

Further that the 2024 Draft Audited Financial Statements be approved; and

Further that the Appropriations to and from Reserves as outlined in Schedule 8 – Statement of Continuity of Reserves of the 2024 Draft Audited Financial Statements be approved; and

Further that the pending 2024 Audited Financial Statements be distributed to the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Conservation Authority's banker, and be made available on the Conservation Authority's website. **Carried**

b) Transformation 2022–2024: Final Strategic Plan Progress Report

CAO, Rob Baldwin, provided a final progress update on the Conservation Authority's Strategic Plan, **Transformation 2022-2024**, noting that this strategic plan was the first plan to shift emphasis to the outcomes we seek to achieve in the watershed. Instead of measuring success by what is done (outputs), we made a move towards measuring success by the actual difference we've made (outcomes).

Identified in **Transformation 2022-2024** were the following five strategic directions:

1. Champion watershed health and climate resilience
2. Drive evidence-based decision-making
3. Spark a passion and action for nature
4. Advance organizational effectiveness and excellence
5. Nurture people and talent

Some noteworthy achievements in the last year of the plan through disciplined implementation included strong leadership and a commitment to continuous improvement, strengthened operational efficiency, and advanced critical initiatives, further solidifying our position as a solutions-driven leader among conservation authorities.

Some of the pivotal actions undertaken from 2022 to 2024 include:

- Investing in technology to enhance network and cyber security,
- Advancing programs and partnerships, linking the impacts of nature on human health,
- Progressing to construction on the new Nature Centre at Scanlon Creek Conservation Area,
- Leading in compliance under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act,
- Pioneering cutting-edge lake nutrient science and research,
- Pursuing multiple avenues of policy advocacy with government partners,
- Building business development opportunities into successful new Category 2 programs and generating new and sustainable sources of revenue, and
- Meeting all legislative changes under Bills 229 and 23.

As a result, our Conservation Authority is now more resilient and better positioned for future growth and success, with a solid foundation to build on our updated strategic directions and outcome objectives. To view this presentation, please click this link: [Transformation 2022-2024 Strategic Plan Final Report](#)

Moved by: D. Le Roy

Seconded by: T. Roy-DiClemente

BOD-49-25 **Resolved That** the presentation by CAO, Rob Baldwin, regarding the progress made on the Conservation Authority's Strategic Plan, **Transformation 2022-2024** be received for information. **Carried**

Included in the agenda was Staff Report No. 16-25-BOD regarding the progress on the Conservation Authority's Strategic Plan, **Transformation 2022-2024**.

Moved by: D. Le Roy

Seconded by: T. Roy-DiClemente

BOD-050-25 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 16-25-BOD regarding the progress made on the Conservation Authority's Strategic Plan: **Transformation 2022-2024** be received for information. **Carried**

c) 2026 Budget Assumptions

General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO, Mark Critch, provided an overview of the Conservation Authority's proposed 2026 Budget Assumptions, noting the 2026 Budget process has begun, and budget assumptions are needed to provide important information to municipal partners that feed directly into their respective budgets. He advised that the levy increase being requested from the Conservation Authority to its municipal funding partners includes salary increases due to Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA) and step, inflation, new operating costs, investment in strategic initiatives and funding for asset management. Staff recommended the following budget assumptions for 2026:

1. Base Levy (all categories); up to 2.00% (2025: 2.00%);
2. Inflation: up to 2.50% used only for applicable expenditures (2025: 2.50%);
3. COLA: up to 2.50% (2025: 3.00%) plus applicable step increases;
4. Infrastructure levy increase for Asset Management: up to 0.50% increase on all Category 1 levy (2025: 0.50%); this will be included in the 2.0% base funding increase;
5. New in 2026, Infrastructure levy for the Nature Centre: up to 0.50% increase in Category 1 Mandatory Levy only (2025: N/A); this will be included in the 1.0% new additional Category 1 Mandatory Levy;
6. Investment in Strategic Priorities: Up to \$84.9K or the equivalent of a 1.00% in Category 1 Mandatory Levy (2025: 0.00%); this will be included in the 2.0% base funding increase;

7. Up to 2 new FTEs in 2026, with possible additional fully funded from grants and/or fees; this will be funded in the 2.0% base increase; and
8. New in 2026: Special Levy for the new Nature Centre is another 1% on the Category 1 Mandatory Levy and an additional 2% on the Category 3 funding; these new levies will be on top of the 2.0% Base levy for 2026.

To view this presentation, please click this link: [2026 Budget Assumptions Presentation](#)

Moved by: D. Le Roy

Seconded by: T. Roy-DiClemente

BOD-051-25 **Resolved That** the presentation by General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO, Mark Critch, regarding the 2026 Budget Assumptions be received for information. **Carried**

Included in the agenda was Staff Report No. 17-25-BOD regarding the 2026 Budget Assumptions.

Moved by: D. Le Roy

Seconded by: T. Roy-DiClemente

BOD-052-25 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 17-25-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's recommended budget assumptions for the 2026 fiscal year be approved. **Carried**

d) Determination 2025-2028, the Conservation Authority's New Strategic Plan

Having previously presented the final report on the former strategic plan, CAO, Rob Baldwin, provided an overview of Determination 2025-2028, the Conservation Authority's new Strategic Plan. The development of the updated strategic plan was carried out in-house, an approach that reduces costs, assists in establishing realistic and achievable performance metrics and measures, and places emphasis on the critical ground-level knowledge and experience of staff, while creating a greater sense of connection to the Conservation Authority's vision, mission, values and strategic directions and objectives. The process began in May 2024 and involved consultation with all levels of Conservation Authority staff, as well as the Board of Directors. Through these consultations, it was evident that the directions and objectives outlined in Transformation 2022-2024 remain relevant to current business. Therefore, only a targeted update was required to align the strategic objectives with the changes experienced by the Conservation Authority over the past three years.

The following five slightly modified Strategic Directions will continue to guide our planning, actions, and decisions as we move towards achieving our objectives, mission, and vision:

1. Champion Watershed Health and Climate Resilience
2. Drive Evidence-Based Decision Making

3. Create Awareness and Spark Passion and Action for Nature
4. Advance Organizational Effectiveness and Excellence
5. Nurture People and Talent

For each Strategic Direction, three Strategic Objectives have been established to assist in driving implementation and reporting.

To view this presentation, please click this link: [Determination - 2025-2028 Strategic Plan](#)

For more on our new Strategic Plan, please click this link: www.LSRCA.on.ca/Determination

Moved by: J. Gough

Seconded by: C. Pettingill

BOD-053-25 **Resolved That** the presentation by CAO, Rob Baldwin, regarding Determination 2025-2028, the Conservation Authority's refreshed Strategic Plan be received for information. **Carried**

Included in the agenda was Staff Report No. 18-25-BOD regarding the completion of Determination 2025-2028 - Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's Strategic Plan.

Moved by: J. Gough

Seconded by: C. Pettingill

BOD-054-25 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 18-25-BOD regarding the completion of Determination 2025-2028 - Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's Strategic Plan be received; and

Further that Determination 2025 - 2028 - Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's Strategic Plan be approved. **Carried**

e) Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's History and Role in Salt Management

Director, Watershed Science & Monitoring, Dave Lembcke, together with Manager, Watershed Plans and Strategies, Bill Thompson, provided an overview of the Conservation Authority's historical involvement and efforts to date on the issue of salt management in the Lake Simcoe watershed. The Conservation Authority has been responsible for the collection of chloride samples in the watershed since the 1980s. Chloride concentrations in the surface waters of the Lake Simcoe watershed have continued to increase due to the use of winter salt on roads and parking lots, a trend not unique to the Lake Simcoe watershed that is mirrored in the lakes and streams in much of southern Ontario and the northeastern United States. In Lake Simcoe itself concentrations have shown consistent increases since the 1970s with concentrations currently sitting at approximately 61mg/l. While this concentration is below the Canadian Water Quality Guideline of 120mg/l, this threshold will be crossed if the current trend continues.

In the tributaries, a similar increasing trend is observed at most monitoring stations on both urban and rural rivers. In urban rivers, most of the sampled concentrations sit above the chronic guideline of 120 mg/l with a number of sampled concentrations exceeding the acute guideline of 640mg/l. At concentrations in excess of the acute guideline, lethal effects can occur for some aquatic species. Decreasing the amount of winter salt use throughout the watershed is critical to the long-term health of Lake Simcoe but more immediately critical to the ecological health of the urban streams and rivers.

For over 20 years, the Conservation Authority has been involved in and led numerous initiatives to bring awareness to this increasing trend. Some of these initiatives include:

- co-authoring a paper in the Water Quality Research Journal of Canada;
- hosting a workshop for municipal roads staff;
- keeping the dialogue open through the Lake Simcoe Salt Working Group;
- co-hosting the International Great Lakes Chloride Forum;
- producing design guidelines for new parking lots to ensure future developments are designed with winter maintenance in mind;
- convening and chairing the Ontario Freshwater Roundtable and leading the development of the Freshwater Roundtable's discussion paper on barriers to adoption of better winter maintenance practices in the private sector and provided recommendations to overcome them;
- promoting the need to adopt the New Hampshire model of providing liability limitation to trained and certified winter maintenance contractors;
- completing case studies on the implementation of best practices for both public roads and private parking lots;
- co-hosting a Salt Forum with Landscape Ontario, Conservation Ontario, City of Guelph and others to re-engage the private sector and the Province on discussions on regulation change to reduce liability;
- partnering with Toronto Metropolitan University through Lake Simcoe Protection Plan funding to assess climate influence on road salt application rates and engaging municipal roads managers to assess potential changes in practice related to service level expectations; and
- participating on a panel at Ontario Good Roads conference discussing the intersection of salt, road safety, liability and environmental impact and the limited liability approach as a win-win solution.

The Conservation Authority was the first Canadian winner of the Chloride Reduction Leadership Award, presented at an international chloride conference in Minnesota in recognition of the broad coalition staff have built on the topic.

In November 2023, staff presented to the Conservation Authority's Board of Directors on findings and trends in Chloride concentrations within tributaries and the lake, as well as efforts on best practice and policy advocacy including the limited liability framework. Following the meeting, the Staff Report and template resolution were circulated to watershed municipalities. A letter was also then sent by the Conservation Authority Chair and Chief Administrative Officer to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, as well as all watershed Members of Provincial Parliament, outlining the need for and benefits of a limited liability approach. Senior Conservation Authority staff have engaged provincial counterparts to highlight the importance of this issue and the potential win-win scenario that a limited liability framework could bring. Both the former and current Conservation Authority CAOs have met with the previous and current Ministers of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, as well as the Attorney General to discuss the success experienced in New Hampshire and advocate for a similar framework in Ontario.

To view this presentation, please click this link: [Chloride in the Lake Simcoe Watershed](#)

Moved by: M. Quirk

Seconded by: T. Roy-DiClemente

BOD-055-25 **Resolved That** the presentation by Director, Watershed Science & Monitoring, Dave Lembcke, together with Manager, Watershed Plans and Strategies, Bill Thompson, regarding the Conservation Authority's historical involvement and efforts to date on the issue of salt managements be received for information. **Carried**

Included in the agenda was Staff Report No. 19-25-BOD regarding Conservation Authority's history and role in salt management.

Following much discussion on the importance of action needed to reduce chloride levels in the Lake Simcoe watershed, the Board passed the following amended resolution.

Moved by: M. Quirk

Seconded by: T. Roy-DiClemente

BOD-056-25 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 19-25-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's history and role in road salt management in both the public and private sectors be received; and

Further That staff be directed to prepare a draft resolution for the Board's consideration at their July 2025 meeting to highlight the compelling and urgent data collected by the Conservation Authority on rising levels of chloride in the Lake Simcoe watershed; and

Further That staff be directed to continue collaborating with and supporting Provincial staff and Ministers to advance a limited liability approach for Ontario. **Carried**

VII. Hearings

There were no Hearings at this meeting.

VIII. Deputations

There were no Deputations at this meeting.

IX. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

X. Adoption of Items not Requiring Separate Discussion

Items No. 1 and 2 were identified under items not requiring separate discussion.

Moved by: F. Drodge

Seconded by: R. Greenlaw

BOD-057-25 **Resolved That** the following recommendations respecting the matters listed as “Items Not Requiring Separate Discussion” be adopted as submitted to the Board, and staff be authorized to take all necessary action required to give effect to same. **Carried**

1. Offsetting Program Results - Reconciliation to December 31, 2024

BOD-058-25 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 20-25-BOD regarding a reconciliation of the Conservation Authority’s Offsetting Cash in Lieu funds and Key Performance Indicators be received for information. **Carried**

2. Shared Services - Strengthening among Conservation Authority Foundations

BOD-059-25 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 21-25-BOD regarding the Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation’s shared services offering to strengthen Conservation Authority Foundations be received for information. **Carried**

XI. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

No items were identified under items requiring separate discussion.

XII. Closed Session

The Board moved to Closed Session to deal with a confidential land matters.

Moved by: P. Ferragine

Seconded by: B. Garrod

BOD-060-25 **Resolved That** the Board move to Closed Session to deal with confidential land matters; and

Further that the Chief Administrative Officer, members of the Executive Leadership Team, and the Director, Conservation Lands remain in the meeting for the discussion.

Carried

The Board rose from Closed Session to report findings.

Moved by: J. Gough

Seconded by: C. Pettingill

BOD-061-25 **Resolved That** the Board rise from Closed Session and report findings.

Carried

a) Confidential Land Matter

Moved by: T. Vegh

Seconded by: B. Garrod

BOD-062-25 **Resolved That** the update on a Confidential land matter be received for information. **Carried**

b) Confidential Land Matter

Moved by: T. Vegh

Seconded by: B. Garrod

BOD-063-25 **Resolved That** the update on a Confidential land matter be received for information. **Carried**

XIII. Other Business

a) Chair Riepma advised that the next meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Friday, July 25, 2025 in the Conservation Authority's Administrative Offices.

XIV. Adjournment

Moved by: J. Gough

Seconded by: C. Pettingill

BOD-064-25 **Resolved That** the meeting be adjourned at 11:55 a.m. **Carried**

Original to be signed by:

Original to be signed by:

Councillor Clare Riepma
Chair

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer

Staff Report

To: Board of Directors

From: Katherine Toffan, Director, Finance

Date: July 25, 2025

Subject:

Second Quarter 2025 Financial Report and Year-end Forecast

Recommendation:

That Staff Report No. 22-25-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority’s Second Quarter 2025 Financial Report and Year-End Forecast be received for information.

Purpose of this Staff Report:

The purpose of this Staff Report is to provide a summary of financial activities for the period ending June 30, 2025, as they relate to the 2025 Budget. Staff have also used this report to review the Conservation Authority’s forecasted year-end financial position, along with high level issues and trends that staff have observed through June 30, 2025.

Background:

The Budget Status Reports have been developed for the use of the Board and management and provide a status update on the programs and projects that fall under the Conservation Authority’s seven service areas: Corporate Services, Ecological Management, Education and Engagement, Greenspace Services, Planning and Development Services, Water Risk Management and Watershed Studies and Strategies.

Issues:

The Corporate Budget Status report attached in Appendix 1 presents a surplus position of \$308K on June 30, 2025. The drivers of this surplus are outlined in the following table:

Service Area	Surplus/ (Deficit)	Drivers
Corporate Services	303K	Gapping in timing of hiring Human Resources and Finance positions, open position in Communications. Timing on engaging work for talent management.
Ecological Management	42K	Salary Gapping – timing of project work on MECP and Stormwater agreements that closed in Q1/Q2.
Education and Engagement	10K	School programming revenues up slightly over the year-to-date budget

Service Area	Surplus/ (Deficit)	Drivers
Greenspace Services	(20K)	Overage in costs associated with land initiatives related to the Authority's land acquisition and disposition strategy
Planning and Development Services	(46K)	Volume of applications are down which affects revenue, offset with deferral of expense until review at Q3.
Water Risk Management	(28K)	Impact of the fees changes in the Offsetting Policy – review at Q3 will determine need for reserve draw.
Watershed Studies and Strategies	47K	Salary Gapping related to timing on hiring an open position and some consulting work that is expected to materialize in Q3/Q4
	\$308K	Overall Operational (deficit) at June 30, 2025

Relevance to Conservation Authority Policy:

This staff report has been prepared to provide a Second Quarter financial update on the current financial position, project expenditures, opportunities, and risks as they relate to the 2025 approved budget, as well as highlight variances identified through the year-end forecast.

Impact on Conservation Authority Finances:

a) Revenues:

Revenues are recognized based on the source and nature of the revenue and by the expenditures that are incurred to cause recognition of revenue.

Category 1 – Mandatory Program Levy is recognized in line with operational expenses throughout the year, and surplus is recognized to reserves at year-end. Category 1 – Lake Simcoe Protection Plan (Plan) Levy can cover operational expenses and can be used for watershed wide projects that support the objectives of the Plan. Funds from the Plan Levy that cover operations are recognized in line with operational expenses throughout the year, and surplus is recognized to reserves at year-end. Funds assigned to projects are recognized throughout the year, as related expenses are incurred and unused funds can be held in deferred revenue at year-end through to completion of the project.

Category 2 funding supports specific initiatives requested by municipal partners and is recognized throughout the year as related expenses are incurred. Unused funds may be held in deferred revenue at year-end.

Category 3 funding supports specific programs and services that the Conservation Authority delivers and is recognized throughout the year as operational expenses are incurred.

Provincial and Federal funds are recognized throughout the year as related expenses are incurred, and unused funds are held in deferred revenue at year-end. These funds are received based on specific funding agreements signed with the funder.

Deferred funding and municipal agreements are funds from deferred revenue that are held for specific projects and funding from contracts with municipal partners for the delivery of goods and services. These funds are recognized when services are delivered and invoiced when related project expenses are incurred.

Revenue Generated by the Conservation Authority includes fees from the Development Planning program, revenue generated from third party agreements which is recognized when invoiced, as well as Offsetting funds and Donations from the Foundation, which are recognized as the related expenses are incurred.

Variations in Revenue through June

The variance of about \$3.9M in Revenue Generated by Conservation Authority against the year-to-date budget is mainly driven by the timing of recognition in line with some of the capital and project work in the Ecological and Water Risk Management programs, as well as the ongoing work on the Scanlon Creek Nature Centre which is supported by the Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation. Details of the projects driving these timing variances are outlined in Section c) below in the Corporate Services, Ecological and Water Risk Management and Watershed Studies and Strategies Service Areas.

There is also a variance in Revenue Generated by Authority in the Development Planning program through June. There are a couple of drivers causing this which have been built into the year-end forecast and will be monitored through Q3. First, volume of applications is down year over year and from expected budget. Housing starts are down, the lowest in a number of years. Volume of applications received is down 47% compared to 2024 levels. This is related to uncertainty in the economy, cost of construction, and interest rate levels. The effect of this is reflected in the fees collected from Engineering data requests, legal inquires, permit and planning fees. A second driver to this variance is that fees continue to be frozen for 2025 and are therefore not in line with the appropriate fee to maintain full cost recovery. The impact of the two years of a fee freeze is estimated to be \$175K for 2025. In 2024 the Conservation Authority engaged Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. to review the fees to determine the impact legislative changes have had to the program's fees and costs. The final report from Watson is still being worked on, the annual impact and the results of which will be brought back to the Board once available. With the Provincial fee freeze still in effect for 2025, any changes derived from the Watson report will have to wait to be implemented.

Revenue variances in Deferred, Municipal Agreements and Provincial and Federal funding variances of about \$230K are below year-to-date budget at the end of June. This is related to timing of work on some Provincial grant agreements, timing of work under municipal

agreements and deferred funding committed to larger restoration projects. The Restoration and Environmental Monitoring departments are aligning work with the timing of agreement deliverables, and variances are outlined in section c) below.

b) Expenditures:

Variances in staffing and expenses in operational program areas that are contributing to the second quarter surplus are explained below.

Staffing

In 2024 there was 1 full time and 1 contract position open in our Human Resources and Corporate Finance programs. Both positions have been filled, but some gapping is being recognizing due to the timing of the recruitment and hiring. For 2025, there is 1 full-time position open in Corporate Services in Communication, which is resulting in salary gapping contributing to the June surplus. Management is evaluating the program needs to determine if budgeted positions are in line with the resources needed within the department, while also aligning contract staff to cover leaves of absence, ensuring adequate coverage until the timing of the leaves is determined.

Salary gapping is also contributing to variances in expenditures to date in the Development Planning programs. This is due to a pause on filling a few budgeted contract and summer roles for natural heritage work while management assesses the workload associated with the volume of applications. Another variance in staffing affecting this program is a decrease in the number of applications requiring a full engineering review. Engineering staff have been reassigned to work on some of the flood program audit work and to support some of the initiatives being delivered to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks through the Flood Mitigation Measures project. Timing on hiring is contributing to some additional staffing expense variances in the Watershed Planning program for 1 open position. These variances are expected to continue through year-end and have been factored into the year-end forecast.

Operational Expenses

Variances in operational expenses that are mainly related to timing in Corporate Services, Development Planning, Flood Management and Warning, and Watershed Subwatershed Planning are also contributing to the June surplus.

Various initiatives within Corporate Services where work is being evaluated or is underway are contributing to the June surplus and mostly related to timing. Work related to rebranding is in the discovery phase, staff are aligning this with work on the celebration of our 75th anniversary in 2026. Accordingly, any expense related to engagement with a consultant would take place later in the year. Finance and Information Management staff are working on developing an RFP for design and implementation of online payment and registration solutions with the intent that a consultant will be engaged in the Fall. The Talent Management project being handled

through our Human Resource team is currently in year 1 with a focus on updates to the performance review process. Funds were budgeted for some work to take place in 2025, and staff are evaluating whether that work can be handled internally and when or if it would be necessary to engage an outside consultant.

Plans to engage with consultants on some policy review work in the Development Planning program has been postponed. Staff are evaluating whether some of this work can be done with internal staff or deferred to 2026.

Consulting services related to flood mapping work for Beaver and Whites Creek have not started at June. It is expected that this work will take place in 2025 pending finalization of funding.

Consulting services for ongoing work on carbon sequestration in our Climate Change program are lower than year-to-date budget but are expected to be fully spent by year end.

c) Timing Variances related to Capital and Project work:

There are year-to-date revenue and expense variances that can be attributed to timing of capital and project work. There is no operational surplus or deficit related to these variances, as they are presented as variances to revenue and expenditure budgets in the attached statements.

Expenditures in the Corporate Services Capital and Projects are below year-to-date budget. This reflects timing related to spending that will take place for the Scanlon Creek Nature Centre, which is funded by donations from the Foundation and Federal funds. Construction is underway and spending at the end of June is around \$2.0M – about 50% of the year-to-date budget. These expenses are expected to ramp up over the summer and fall months.

Capital and Restoration projects in the Ecological Restoration and Regeneration and Water Management and Restoration programs are in progress. These projects are covered by Provincial funding, Offsetting funds and/or municipal partner funding. Key areas of these variances include:

- i. Ecological Management – The \$903K year to date variance in the Capital and Projects is related to the Restoration and Regeneration program for the following projects:

Partner managed project in progress:

- Ecological Offsetting Capital projects and Grants to Partner/Landowners. Funded by Restoration and Ecological Offsetting funds, these grants are expected to be sent to partners upon successful completion of the project and submission of all required information to receive the grant.
 - Approximately \$1.6M in approved funding is expected to be funded in 2025 dependant on the timing of completion for the projects.

Authority managed projects in progress:

- Hamilton Park Wetland in the Town of Aurora
- Simcoe Hydrology monitoring with Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
- Udora Tract Wetland with York Region

Substantially completed projects – early 2025:

- Queensville Park in East Gwillimbury – majority of work took place in 2024; ongoing monitoring through 2025.
- Oro Wetland Restoration in Oro-Medonte – majority of work took place in 2024; ongoing monitoring through 2025.
- Vivian Creek Stream and Wetland Restoration in East Gwillimbury - majority of work took place in 2024; ongoing monitoring through 2025.

- ii. Water Risk Management – the \$600K year to date variance in the Capital and Projects is related to Water Management, Restoration and Science and Monitoring programs for the following projects:

Partner managed project in progress:

- Water Balance and Phosphorus Offsetting Capital Projects and Grants to Partner/Landowners. Funded by Restoration, Water Balance or Lake Simcoe Phosphorus Offsetting funds, these grants are expected to be sent to partners upon successful completion of the project and submission of all required information to receive the grant.
 - Approximately \$200K in approved funding is expected to be funded in 2025 dependant on the timing of completion for the projects.

Authority managed projects in progress:

- Stormwater Monitoring Projects – There are currently three stormwater inspection and monitoring projects with municipal partners that are ongoing projects through 2025 into early 2026.
- Victoria Green stormwater pond retrofit and wetland project in Innisfil.

Substantially completed projects – early 2025:

- Provincial Funding Agreements under the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan – Seven provincially funded projects have had final report submissions as of May 2025.
- Ray Twinney Low Impact Development project in Newmarket – majority of work took place in 2024; ongoing monitoring through 2025.

High Level Forecast to the End of 2025:

Staff have conducted a program and project review to provide a forecast on the year-end financial position. Through working with program managers, staff are forecasting an overall

year-end operational deficit position of (\$186K). Outlined below are some of the main drivers contributing to the forecasted deficit:

- i) Staffing and expenses are being forecasted to be below budget for operational programming in the Corporate Services, Development Planning, and Watershed Planning programs.

The variances to budget driving the forecasted underspending in staffing for these program areas are the same as those outlined in the surplus position through the end of June and described under the Impact on Conservation Authority Finances section b) Staffing above.

Operational expense variances to budget that are expected to contribute to the year-end forecast position for consulting work have been described under the Impact on Conservation Authority Finances section b) Operational Expenses above.

The Education and Engagement program is forecasting a small year-end deficit that is being driven by the volume of revenue related to programming expected to take place in the Fall and Winter. Staff have made some assumptions of lower revenues in anticipation of reduced class registrations from Boards which could change depending on the timing of the 2025/2026 school year planning. Staff will keep an eye on registration and Board policy and programming updates for the Q3 forecast review.

The Development Planning program is forecasting a deficit position at year end, with the main driver related to lower volume of applications than anticipated for the remainder of 2025. As outlined in the Impact on Conservation Authority Finances section a) Variance in Revenue section above, housing starts are down across the province, there is economic uncertainty around interest rates and construction costs are up. Staff will continue to monitor volume of applications and the effect on the program through the Fall and incorporate any changes and updates with our Q3 forecast.

- ii) It is anticipated that the reserve activity will come in close to budget at this time. Several initiatives have been completed or are in progress. Staff laptop and office chair replacements have been purchased, work on the bathroom renovations in the Newmarket office are substantially complete, RFPs for upgrades to the Boardroom sound system and power pole replacements at Scanlon have closed and bids are currently being reviewed. The RFP for Online Payment solutions is under development with an aim to release in late Summer. Monthly interest earned is tracking on budget which will be transferred to Rate Stabilization at year end.
- iii) Based on recommendations in the Conservation Authority's land acquisition and disposition strategy previously approved by the Board of Directors, staff are expecting to transfer additional priority properties in 2025. The anticipated expense for this is approximately \$131K and will be reflected in the Q3 update.

The Conservation Authority is in the process of receiving a land donation that is consistent with the Conservation Authority's land acquisition and disposition strategy. The agreement is pending, and an update will be brought to the Board when it is most appropriate.

Summary and Recommendations:

It is therefore **Recommended That** Staff Report No. 22-25-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's Second Quarter 2025 Financial Report and Year-End Forecast be received for information.

Pre-Submission Review:

This Staff Report has been reviewed by the General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO and the Chief Administrative Officer.

Signed by:

Mark Critch
General Manager, Corporate and Financial
Services/CFO

Signed by:

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments:

Attachment 1 – Second Quarter Budget Status Reports

Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority
Corporate Budget Status
At June 30, 2025 (shown in 000's)

Revenue:	Full Year Budget	YTD Budget	Actual YTD	% of YTD Budget
Category 1 - Mandatory Program Levy	\$ 5,565	\$ 2,783	\$ 2,783	100%
Category 1 - Mandatory Program Special Benefitting	200	100	-	0%
Category 1 - Lake Simcoe Protection Plan Levy	2,921	1,460	1,439	99%
Category 2 - Funding	636	318	268	84%
Category 3 - Funding	361	180	180	100%
Provincial and Federal Funding	2,153	1,076	895	83%
Deferred Funding and Municipal Agreements	1,381	691	636	92%
Revenue Generated by Authority	18,038	9,019	5,006	56%
Total Revenue:	31,255	15,627	11,207	72%
Expenses:				
Corporate Services	6,276	3,138	2,601	83%
Ecological Management	1,969	985	884	90%
Education and Engagement	938	469	463	99%
Greenspace Services	1,051	526	528	100%
Planning and Development Services	5,025	2,512	2,139	85%
Water Risk Management	2,648	1,324	918	69%
Watershed Studies and Strategies	1,063	531	432	81%
Capital and Projects	15,492	7,746	3,956	51%
Total Gross Expenses:	34,462	17,231	11,921	69%
Expenses included above related to:				
Tangible Capital Assets	-	-	2,115	
Internal Fee for Service	3,187	1,594	1,579	99%
Expenses before Amortization	31,275	15,638	8,227	53%
Amortization	-	-	290	
Net surplus/(deficit) before reserve activity and change in net assets	(20)	(10)	2,690	
Board approved draws on reserve:	1,275	638	116	18%
Board approved transfers to reserves:	(1,255)	(628)	(672)	107%
Other reserve activity:				
Transfer to reserves for funds received in year	-	-	-	
Related to Change in Net Assets	-	-	(1,825)	
Operational surplus	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 308	

Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority
Service Area Budget Status Report
For period ending June 30, 2025 (shown in 000's)

Corporate Services	2025 Full Year Budget	2025 YTD Budget	2025 YTD Actual	% of YTD Budget
Revenue:				
Category 1 - Mandatory Program Levy	\$ 2,950	\$ 1,475	\$ 1,475	100%
Category 1 - Lake Simcoe Protection Plan Levy	282	141	141	100%
Category 2 - Funding	-	-	-	
Category 3 - Funding	-	-	-	
Provincial and Federal Funding	2	1	-	0%
Deferred Funding and Municipal Agreements	-	-	-	
Revenue Generated by Authority	8,818	4,409	2,346	53%
Total Revenue:	12,052	6,026	3,962	66%
Expenses:				
Corporate Communications	1,037	519	395	76%
Facility Management	736	368	291	79%
Financial Management	1,513	756	618	82%
Governance	791	396	345	87%
Human Resource Management	581	291	214	74%
Information Management	1,618	809	738	91%
Capital and Projects	8,749	4,375	2,089	48%
Total Gross Expenses:	15,025	7,513	4,690	62%
Expenses included above related to:				
Internal Fee for Service	3,162	1,581	1,572	99%
Net Expenses (excluding Asset entries)	11,863	5,931	3,118	53%
Net surplus before reserve activity	189	94	844	
Board approved draws on reserve:	935	467	91	
Board approved transfers to reserve:	(1,124)	(562)	(632)	
Operational surplus	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 303	

Ecological Management	2025 Full Year Budget	2025 YTD Budget	2025 YTD Actual	% of YTD Budget
Revenue :				
Category 1 - Mandatory Program Levy	\$ 82	\$ 41	\$ 41	99%
Category 1 - Lake Simcoe Protection Plan Levy	1,301	650	650	100%
Category 2 - Funding	450	225	175	78%
Category 3 - Funding	-	-	-	
Provincial and Federal Funding	523	261	292	112%
Deferred Funding and Municipal Agreements	369	184	173	94%
Revenue Generated by Authority	2,831	1,416	491	35%
Total Revenue:	5,556	2,778	1,822	66%
Expenses:				
Ecosystem Science and Monitoring	681	341	303	89%
Forestry Services	713	356	310	87%
Restoration and Regeneration	575	288	271	94%
Capital and Projects	3,612	1,806	903	50%
Total Gross Expenses:	5,580	2,790	1,787	64%
Expenses included above related to:				
Internal Fee for Service	25	13	7	55%
Net Expenses (excluding Asset entries)	5,555	2,778	1,780	64%
Operational surplus	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 42	

Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority
Service Area Budget Status Report
For period ending June 30, 2025 (shown in 000's)

Education and Engagement	2025 Full Year Budget	2025 YTD Budget	2025 YTD Actual	% of YTD Budget
Revenue :				
Category 1 - Mandatory Program Levy	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Category 1 - Lake Simcoe Protection Plan Levy	-	-	-	
Category 2 - Funding	-	-	-	
Category 3 - Funding	361	181	180	100%
Provincial and Federal Funding	-	-	-	
Deferred Funding and Municipal Agreements	-	-	-	
Revenue Generated by Authority	570	285	286	100%
Total Revenue:	931	466	466	100%
Expenses:				
Community Programming	197	99	76	77%
School Programming	741	371	387	104%
Capital and Projects	-	-	-	
Total Gross Expenses:	938	469	463	99%
Expenses included above related to:				
Internal Fee for Service	-	-	-	
Net Expenses (excluding Asset entries)	938	469	463	99%
Net surplus/(deficit) before reserve activity	(7)	(4)	3	
Board approved draws on reserve:	7	4	7	
Board approved transfers to reserve:	-	-	-	
Operational surplus	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10	

Greenspace Services	2025 Full Year Budget	2025 YTD Budget	2025 YTD Actual	% of YTD Budget
Revenue :				
Category 1 - Mandatory Program Levy	\$ 950	\$ 475	\$ 475	100%
Category 1 - Lake Simcoe Protection Plan Levy	-	-	-	
Category 2 - Funding	-	-	-	
Category 3 - Funding	-	-	-	
Provincial and Federal Funding	-	-	-	
Deferred Funding and Municipal Agreements	22	11	11	100%
Revenue Generated by Authority	157	78	59	75%
Total Revenue:	1,129	565	545	97%
Expenses:				
Management	837	418	433	103%
Securement	214	107	95	89%
Capital and Projects	339	170	37	22%
Total Gross Expenses:	1,391	695	565	81%
Expenses included above related to:				
Internal Fee for Service	-	-	-	
Net Expenses (excluding Asset entries)	1,391	695	565	81%
Net (deficit) before reserve activity	(262)	(131)	(20)	
Board approved draws on reserve:	262	131	-	
Board approved transfers to reserve:	-	-	-	
Operational (deficit)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (20)	

**Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority
Service Area Budget Status Report
For period ending June 30, 2025 (shown in 000's)**

Development Planning	2025 Full Year Budget	2025 YTD Budget	2025 YTD Actual	% of YTD Budget
Revenue :				
Category 1 - Mandatory Program Levy	\$ 661	\$ 331	\$ 331	100%
Category 1 - Lake Simcoe Protection Plan Levy	-	-	-	
Category 2 - Funding	26	13	13	100%
Category 3 - Funding	-	-	-	
Provincial and Federal Funding	22	11	-	0%
Deferred Funding and Municipal Agreements	440	220	220	100%
Revenue Generated by Authority	3,868	1,934	1,529	79%
Total Revenue:	5,017	2,509	2,093	83%
Expenses:				
Development Planning	2,413	1,206	1,082	90%
Permitting and Enforcement	2,612	1,306	1,057	81%
Capital and Projects	4	2	-	0%
Total Gross Expenses:	5,029	2,514	2,139	85%
Expenses included above related to:				
Internal Fee for Service	-	-	-	
Net Expenses (excluding Asset entries)	5,029	2,514	2,139	85%
Net (deficit) before reserve activity	(12)	(6)	(46)	
Board approved draws on reserve:	12	6	-	
Board approved transfers to reserve:	-	-	-	
Operational (deficit)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (46)	

Water Risk Management	2025 Full Year Budget	2025 YTD Budget	2025 YTD Actual	% of YTD Budget
Revenue :				
Category 1 - Mandatory Program Levy	\$ 786	\$ 393	\$ 393	100%
Category 1 - Mandatory Program Special Benefitting	200	100	-	0%
Category 1 - Lake Simcoe Protection Plan Levy	321	160	160	100%
Category 2 - Funding	160	80	80	100%
Category 3 - Funding	-	-	-	
Provincial and Federal Funding	1,028	514	267	52%
Deferred Funding and Municipal Agreements	285	142	116	82%
Revenue Generated by Authority	1,721	861	190	22%
Total Revenue:	4,500	2,250	1,206	54%
Expenses:				
Flood Management and Warning	1,085	543	282	52%
Source Water Protection	766	383	228	60%
Water Management and Restoration	472	236	230	97%
Water Science and Monitoring	325	163	178	110%
Capital and Projects	1,745	873	276	32%
Total Gross Expenses:	4,393	2,197	1,194	54%
Expenses included above related to:				
Internal Fee for Service	-	-	-	
Net Expenses (excluding Asset entries)	4,393	2,197	1,194	54%
Net surplus before reserve activity	107	54	12	
Board approved draws on reserve:	25	13	-	
Board approved transfers to reserve:	(132)	(66)	(40)	
Operational (deficit)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (28)	

**Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority
Service Area Budget Status Report
For period ending June 30, 2025 (shown in 000's)**

Watershed Studies and Strategies	2025 Full Year Budget	2025 YTD Budget	2025 YTD Actual	% of YTD Budget
Revenue :				
Category 1 - Mandatory Program Levy	\$ 136	\$ 68	\$ 68	100%
Category 1 - Lake Simcoe Protection Plan Levy	1,017	509	488	96%
Category 2 - Funding	-	-	-	
Category 3 - Funding	-	-	-	
Provincial and Federal Funding	578	289	336	116%
Deferred Funding and Municipal Agreements	266	133	116	87%
Revenue Generated by Authority	73	37	105	287%
Total Revenue:	2,070	1,035	1,113	108%
Expenses:				
Climate Change Adaptation	443	222	179	81%
Watershed Subwatershed Planning	248	124	78	63%
Research and Innovation	372	186	175	94%
Capital and Projects	1,042	521	651	125%
Total Gross Expenses:	2,105	1,053	1,083	103%
Expenses included above related to:				
Internal Fee for Service	-	-	-	
Net Expenses (excluding Asset entries)	2,105	1,053	1,083	103%
Net surplus/(deficit) before reserve activity	(35)	(17)	30	
Board approved draws on reserve:	35	17	17	
Board approved transfers to reserve:	-	-	-	
Operational surplus	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 47	

Staff Report

To: Board of Directors

From: Phil Davies, Director, Conservation Lands

Date: July 25, 2025

Subject

Lake Simcoe Conservation Preserve Update

Recommendation

That Staff Report No. 23-25-BOD regarding an update on community engagement activities to inform the development of a long-term Comprehensive Stewardship Plan for the Lake Simcoe Conservation Preserve be received for information.

Purpose of this Staff Report

The purpose of this Staff Report No. 23-25-BOD is to provide an update on the Indigenous Land Relationship Visioning exercise undertaken for the Lake Simcoe Conservation Preserve (the Preserve), and to provide an overview of the broader community engagement plan to be implemented to inform development of a 20 to 25-year Comprehensive Stewardship Plan to guide property management.

Background

In March 2022, the Conservation Authority acquired the Preserve lands located in Georgina, comprised of five parcels with a total area of 360 hectares (890 acres). It contains forests, meadows and thickets, streams and small ponds, and several agricultural fields that are leased to local farmers. There are no buildings or other structures. Several trails were established before the lands were transferred to the Conservation Authority. The lands provide habitat for many flora and fauna. To date, 294 species of vascular plants, 38 vegetation community types, and 110 wildlife species have been identified.

Through 2022 and 2023, Conservation Authority staff and an environmental consultant conducted a series of property inventories, including vegetation sampling, Ecological Land Classification mapping, and invasive species monitoring. This resulted in the creation of a Baseline Documentation Report, a Stewardship Plan and Opportunity and Constraints mapping which are informing current maintenance and management activities and will be used to inform development of the Comprehensive Stewardship Plan. These activities were implemented using established western science practices and protocols.

The Conservation Authority recognizes the significance of Traditional Knowledge and Indigenous World Views and the value they contribute to sustainable environmental stewardship. Accordingly, a two-eyed seeing approach was taken to understand and inform the long-term stewardship of these lands. Two-eyed seeing means learning to see from one eye with the strengths of Indigenous knowledge and from the other eye with the strengths of Western knowledge, and then using both eyes together for the benefit of all. Building an understanding from this perspective will help ensure a fulsome understanding of the property and aid in creating a more inclusive Plan.

Engaging with First Nations in this work is not only a valuable initiative to help inform and improve actions on these lands, but it's also imperative in doing our part toward Reconciliation. The Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation (Georgina Island) are the closest rights holders to the Preserve, with their Reserve within 1.5km of these lands, further reinforcing the importance of engaging with their community at the outset of this process as we develop the long-term stewardship plans for these lands.

Cambium Indigenous Professional Services was retained to conduct a year long project to understand the significance of the Preserve through an Indigenous view, making observations through 13 moon phases (1 year). The work was completed by applying their Land Relationship Visioning (Visioning) process. This involved site visits by members of the Indigenous community and Conservation Authority staff in each season, multiple engagement opportunities with community members from Georgina Island and other nearby First Nation communities, and the creation of an Indigenous Knowledge Carrier Council. This is the first time the Visioning process has been applied outside an Indigenous community. A Summary Report outlines the Visioning process, identifies species and spaces of Indigenous significance throughout the Preserve, and sets out the list below of recommendations for implementation:

- Continued relationship building, including with local schools to engage children and teens in the natural environment.
- Seeking opportunities for Georgina Island Community members and others to participate in activities on the land, such as bioblitzes, guided hikes, species identification workshops, or invasive species removals.
- Expanded understanding of the potential environmental footprint of proposed activities and the potential impacts to significant species and spaces.
- Developing and implementing protocols and processes for site access for Indigenous use, such as harvesting (flora and fauna) and how this can be achieved.

Comprehensive Stewardship Plan Development

With the completion of the Baseline Documentation work and Visioning project, staff are moving to develop a Comprehensive Stewardship Plan (the Plan) for the lands. With a planning horizon of 20 to 25-years, consideration will be given to a wide variety of factors to inform stewardship goals and objectives, establish permitted and excluded activities, and inform ongoing management and maintenance. It will consider project costs and financial feasibility, impacts on the natural environment, threats posed, opportunities for passive recreation and public use, and protection of significant and sensitive species and spaces. The Plan will seek to balance the passive outdoor recreation needs of the community with the protection and conservation of the natural heritage features.

To further inform the process, an external consultant will be retained to conduct a Needs Assessment to undertake a jurisdictional scan of the local community, focusing on passive recreation and greenspace resources, to identify potential gaps and understand how the Preserve could aid in filling them. These findings will guide the Plan by prioritizing unmet community needs and de-emphasizing areas with sufficient or saturated opportunities.

The process for developing the Plan will be collaborative and guided by an Internal Project Team composed of Conservation Authority staff. A community Advisory Committee including First Nations and other community sector representation is being assembled to gather input and inform Plan development (Attachment 1) and is proposed to be Co-Chaired by a member of Georgina Council and the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation. Opportunities for broader public consultation will be provided. The Plan will consider land uses and activities that align with the Conservation Authority’s mandate, Strategic Plan, Conservation Areas Strategy and the Ministerial Zoning Order that governed transfer of the property to the Conservation Authority. These include passive recreation, restoration of natural features, habitat enhancements, education and outreach opportunities and agriculture with the Plan development timelines below:

Timeline	Task
Q2, 2025: June/ July	Project Scoping and Initiation → Presentation to Board (July 2025)
Q4, 2025: July – November	Comprehensive Needs Assessment
Q1, 2026: January – February	Preliminary Landuse Plan Options → Proposed Workshop with Board to review Preliminary Landuse Plan Options (February 2026)
Q2, 2026: March – April	Preferred Landuse Plan → Update to Board to review Preferred Landuse Plan (May 2026)
Q2, 2026: May	Financial Feasibility Assessment

Timeline	Task
Q3, 2026: June	Review of Draft Comprehensive Plan
Q3, 2026: September	Comprehensive Plan Approval by Board of Directors → Presentation of final Plan (September 2026)

Table 1: Proposed schedule of Comprehensive Stewardship Plan Creation

Opportunities and Challenges

Engaging with Cambium Indigenous Professionals and the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation in this project has been a tremendous opportunity for Staff to continue relationship development with Indigenous community members and expand knowledge and understanding of positive land stewardship. It is hoped and intended that the relationship is maintained and grows, informing land stewardship programming and other Conservation Authority initiatives.

There is a significant level of community interest in the property and the opportunities it presents for ecological protection, restoration, and passive recreation. As a result, a high level of interest in the stewardship planning process is anticipated. Management of partner and stakeholder expectations will require the establishment of clear parameters for community engagement and clear timelines for development and implementation. This will be addressed through the development of an engagement terms of reference document.

The size of this property presents many opportunities for a variety of land uses that must be balanced with conservation, restoration, and protection of its significant natural features. Developing a Comprehensive Stewardship Plan to guide activities for the long term will require careful attention to ensure all potential opportunities are investigated, risks identified, and the preferred option selected.

Relevance to Conservation Authority Policy

Engaging with Indigenous partners to apply the Land Relationship Visioning process for the Preserve aligns with the Conservation Authority’s values to be inclusive, responsible and resilient through adaptation. Investing time to listen and develop a deeper understanding of Indigenous Worldviews is critical to demonstrating the Conservation Authority’s commitment to positive relationship development with watershed First Nation communities.

The creation of a long-term comprehensive plan for the Preserve will contribute to the Conservation Authority’s Strategic Plan by aiding in protecting watershed health and climate resilience, utilizing evidence-based decision making, creating awareness and sparking a passion and action for nature, and helping to ensure that the Conservation Authority’s landholdings provide ecological and human health benefits in a sustainable way.

The development of the Comprehensive Stewardship Plan supports the Goal and Strategic Objectives of the Conservation Areas Strategy (2024).

Impact on Conservation Authority Finances

Projects identified for delivery in 2025, including completion of the Land Relationship Visioning Project and supporting reports, and the initiation of the Comprehensive Stewardship Plan development have been included within the 2025 budget.

In accordance with Conservation Authority Purchasing Policies and Procedures, a formal Request for Proposal process will be applied to secure the services of a consulting firm to undertake a passive recreation needs assessment to inform the property uses desired and missing within the community, which will aid in the development of the Plan. The Request for Proposal will be distributed in the summer of 2025 to support budget development and project start-up in Q3 2025.

Summary and Recommendations

It is therefore **Recommended That** Staff Report No. 23-25-BOD regarding an update on community engagement activities to inform the development of a long-term Comprehensive Stewardship Plan for the Lake Simcoe Conservation Preserve be received for information.

Pre-Submission Review

This Staff Report has been reviewed by the General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO and the Chief Administrative Officer.

Signed by:

Mark Critch
General Manager, Corporate and Financial
Services and CFO

Signed by:

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments

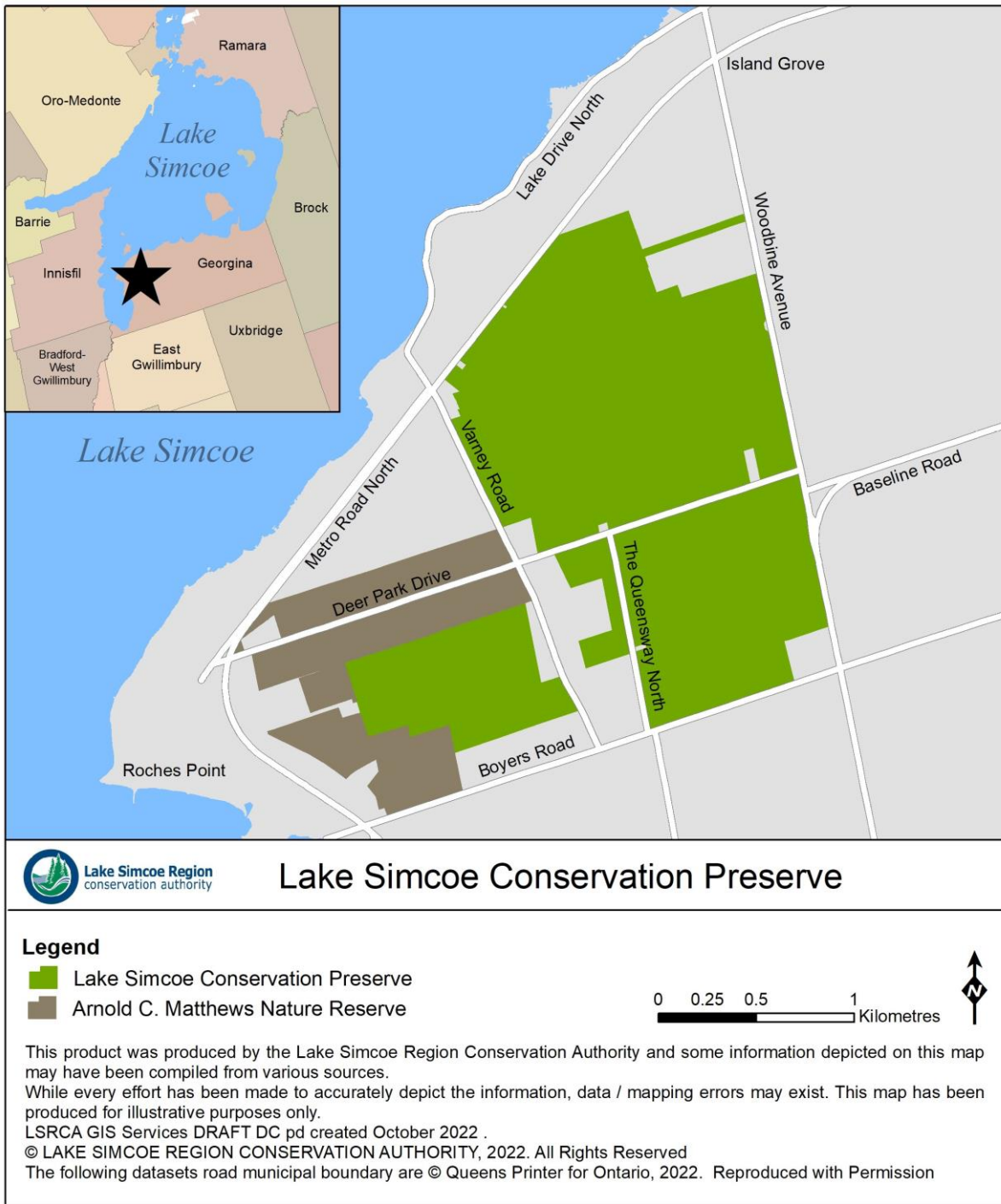
- i) Advisory Committee composition
- ii) Map: Lake Simcoe Conservation Preserve

Attachment 1: Advisory Committee Composition

The composition of the Advisory Committee was carefully considered by the Conservation Authority to ensure that representation from the community and relevant agencies. This will ensure a wider audience of key stakeholders and community members are being engaged meaningfully and will ensure the direction of the Comprehensive Plan is guided by the wider community. Members of the Advisory Committee are representative of those groups, agencies, and Nations and are responsible for attending meetings and reporting back to those representative groups and gathering feedback to share with the Committee and Conservation Authority staff. Committee members are expected to actively participate and be respectful, open minded and prepared for meetings.

Organization	Representation
Town of Georgina - Councillor	Local Government
Town of Georgina - Mayor	Conservation Authority Board of Directors
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation- Band Council	First Nations
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation- Knowledge Carrier Council	First Nations
North Gwillimbury Forest Alliance	Community
Community Member	Community
Community Member	Community
Youth Community Member	Community
TBD (Town of Georgina or York Region)	Accessibility
Town of Georgina	Strategic Initiatives & Community Services
York Simcoe Nature Club	Naturalist Group
TBC (Ontario Federation of Agriculture- York Chapter)	Agriculture
York Region District School Board	Education

Attachment 2: Map Lake Simcoe Conservation Preserve



NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Taking Action to Make Conservation Authorities More Effective

Province appoints Burlington Chief Administrative Officer Hassaan Basit as first-ever Chief Conservation Executive

June 27, 2025

[Environment, Conservation and Parks](#)

TORONTO — Ontario is taking action to enhance the effectiveness of the province's conservation authorities, which will create consistency, reduce costs and drive faster outcomes for the communities they serve. These changes will support the government's commitment to protect Ontario's economy by speeding up critical infrastructure and housing development, while safeguarding the environment. To lead these efforts, Hassaan Basit, a well-respected and non-partisan leader with deep experience with local conservation authorities, will serve in a newly created role as the Chief Conservation Executive, effective August 4, 2025.

"Our government recognizes the vital role that Ontario's conservation authorities play in watershed management and protecting communities from natural hazards," said Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. "I am looking forward to leading our government's efforts to bring common sense conservation principles to the role of conservation authorities and this newly created role under Hassaan's leadership will support these efforts across the province."

Since 2019, Ontario has been working to improve the operations of conservation authorities to better ensure they have the required tools to protect the communities they serve, through legislative and regulatory changes that have significantly improved governance, oversight, transparency and accountability of conservation authorities, while streamlining decision-making processes.

“I’m honoured to join the Province of Ontario at this pivotal moment for conservation,” said Hassaan Basit, newly appointed Chief Conservation Executive. “Over my 20 years in the conservation sector, I’ve learned that effective flood protection is not just about safeguarding the environment — it’s about enabling prosperous, sustainable communities. Conservation authorities were created to strike that balance, and they have worked for decades to protect people and property while supporting economic prosperity. As we move forward, modernization is essential to ensure they remain focused, effective, and ready to meet Ontario’s growing needs — whether it’s mitigating flood risks, enabling housing supply or supporting long-term resilience.”

Mr. Basit is currently the Chief Administrative Officer for the City of Burlington. Prior to this, Mr. Basit was President and CEO of Conservation Halton, where he led initiatives in flood risk management, environmental restoration, sustainable development, and outdoor recreation. During this time, Mr. Basit also chaired a provincial working group that advised government on the implementation of key changes to improve the ability of conservation authorities to protect Ontario’s water, land and natural resources. He holds an Executive MBA in Digital Transformation and a Governance Certification from McMaster University, a Master of Science in Science Communication from Queen’s University Belfast, and a Bachelor of Science in Biology and Political Science from the University of Toronto.

QUICK FACTS

- Ontario is served by 36 conservation authorities.
- In Ontario, conservation authorities develop and deliver local, watershed-based resource management programs on behalf of the province and municipalities, including programs aimed at preventing floods and other natural hazards, drinking water source protection and surface water and groundwater monitoring programs.
- Conservation authorities in Ontario were established in 1946 by the *Conservation Authorities Act*.
- Conservation authorities play a role in reviewing development applications near or within hazardous lands.

Staff Report

To: Board of Directors

From: Don Goodyear, General Manager, Integrated Watershed Management

Date: July 25, 2025

Subject:

Recommendation for Winter Road and Parking Lot Maintenance

Recommendation:

That Staff Report No. 24-25-BOD regarding recommendations for winter road and parking lot maintenance be received and the following resolution adopted:

Whereas: Chloride concentrations measured in Lake Simcoe have steadily increased since the 1970's and, if unchecked, could exceed the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment Chronic Guideline by approximately 2069; and

Whereas: Chloride concentrations in urban tributaries are routinely above that Chronic Guideline, occasionally above the Acute Guideline and have recently exceeded the concentration of ocean water in one urban tributary, and continue to increase everywhere due to the use of winter salt on roads and parking lots; and

Whereas: These concentrations are lethal to some species of fish and benthic invertebrates, and decreasing the amount of winter salt use throughout the watershed is critical to the near-term health of urban tributaries and long-term health of Lake Simcoe; and

Whereas: A barrier to the reduction of salt application for parking lots and walkways is the scarcity of trained and certified winter maintenance contractors; and

Whereas: A more substantial barrier to the reduction of salt application for parking lots and walkways is concern over liability; and

Whereas: Businesses in the winter maintenance sector are seeing insurance and legal costs escalate to the point where many have failed, and some property owners have been unable to find winter maintenance contractors; and

Whereas: The limited liability framework in practice in New Hampshire is based on the Canadian Smart About Salt guidelines and has been successfully defended in the higher courts.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors requests that the Attorney General of Ontario and the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks establish and fund an expert stakeholder advisory committee to advise the Province and municipalities on the best courses of action to protect freshwater ecosystems and drinking water from the impacts of salt pollution; and

Further That the Board of Directors requests that technical standards and a Provincial regulatory framework be established that limits liability for winter maintenance contractors following best practices to ensure public safety, business sustainability, and environmental protection; and

Further That municipalities in the Lake Simcoe watershed lead by example by ensuring staff and/or winter maintenance contractors that maintain municipal parking lots obtain certification through the Smart About Salt program as a condition of working for the municipality; and

Further That this resolution be circulated to Lake Simcoe watershed municipalities and Lake Simcoe watershed members of Provincial Parliament; and

Further That municipalities in the Lake Simcoe watershed implement best management practices for municipal roads management; and

Further That municipalities in the Lake Simcoe watershed collaborate with the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority on an outreach campaign to raise awareness of this issue, manage expectations from the public regarding salt usage, and inspire positive action.

Purpose of this Staff Report:

The purpose of this Staff Report No. 24-25-BOD is to enact direction from the Board of Directors to formalize recommendations from the Conservation Authority around winter road and parking lot maintenance.

Background:

Chloride concentrations in the surface waters of the Lake Simcoe watershed continue to increase due to the use of winter salt on roads and parking lots. This trend is not unique to the Lake Simcoe watershed and is mirrored in the lakes and streams in much of southern Ontario and the northeastern United States. In Lake Simcoe itself concentrations have shown a consistent increase since the 1970s with concentrations currently sitting at approximately 61mg/l. While this concentration is below the Canadian Water Quality Guideline of 120mg/l, this threshold will be crossed if the current trend continues.

In tributaries, a similar increasing trend in chloride concentrations is observed at most monitoring stations on both urban and rural rivers. In urban rivers, the majority of sampled concentrations sit above the chronic guideline of 120 mg/l with many sampled concentrations exceeding the acute guideline of 640mg/l. At concentrations in excess of the acute guideline, lethal effects can occur for some aquatic species. Decreasing the amount of winter salt use throughout the watershed is critical to the long-term health of Lake Simcoe but more immediately critical to the ecological health of the urban streams and rivers.

In addition to the environmental concerns over escalating chloride concentrations, there is also a business sustainability crisis in the winter maintenance industry. Many contractors are seeing insurance costs escalate substantially which, combined with the frequency of slip and fall legal

settlements, is creating a significant challenge for these small businesses across the province. Many businesses have failed due to these challenges, and some property owners have been unable to find winter maintenance contractors.

Since 2022, senior staff from the Conservation Authority have engaged private sector stakeholders, other environmental agencies, as well as provincial and federal counterparts to highlight the importance of this issue and the potential win-win scenario that a limited liability framework could bring.

Issues:

Research, including local studies on a large commercial parking lot in the Lake Simcoe watershed, has demonstrated that adopting best practices like the limited liability approach used in New Hampshire can reduce salt use by 40% without any increase in slips and falls. In fact, in some cases, the over-application of salt can create a slipperier surface for walking on.

The barriers to reducing salt application are concern over liability, limited availability of trained and certified contractors, initial municipal costs to implement best practices, and political reaction to complaints.

Relevance to Conservation Authority Policy:

The Conservation Authority's work in understanding and addressing the increasing chloride concentrations in the watershed is in support of strategic directions 2.1 (Knowledge of watershed health and management decisions are improved through comprehensive, leading-edge science) and 3.2 (Mutually beneficial partnerships leverage knowledge and resources for watershed health outcomes).

Impact on Conservation Authority Finances:

This work has historically been funded by member municipalities, as well as the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, through its Lake Simcoe Protection Plan funding.

Summary and Recommendations:

It is therefore **Recommended That** Staff Report No. 24-25-BOD regarding recommendations for winter road and parking lot management be received and the following resolution adopted:

Whereas: Chloride concentrations measured in Lake Simcoe have steadily increased since the 1970's and, if unchecked, could exceed the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment Chronic Guideline by approximately 2069; and **Whereas:** Chloride concentrations in urban tributaries are routinely above that Chronic Guideline, occasionally above the Acute Guideline and have recently exceeded the concentration of ocean water in one urban tributary, and continue to increase everywhere due to the use of winter salt on roads and parking lots; and

Whereas: These concentrations are lethal to some species of fish and benthic invertebrates, and decreasing the amount of winter salt use throughout the watershed is critical to the near-

term health of urban tributaries and long-term health of Lake Simcoe; and **Whereas:** A barrier to the reduction of salt application for parking lots and walkways is the scarcity of trained and certified winter maintenance contractors; and **Whereas:** A more substantial barrier to the reduction of salt application for parking lots and walkways is concern over liability; and **Whereas:** Businesses in the winter maintenance sector are seeing insurance and legal costs escalate to the point where many have failed, and some property owners have been unable to find winter maintenance contractors; and **Whereas:** The limited liability framework in practice in New Hampshire is based on the Canadian Smart About Salt guidelines and has been successfully defended in the higher courts.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors requests that the Attorney General of Ontario and the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks establish and fund an expert stakeholder advisory committee to advise the Province and municipalities on the best courses of action to protect freshwater ecosystems and drinking water from the impacts of salt pollution; and **Further That** the Board of Directors requests that technical standards and a Provincial regulatory framework be established that limits liability for winter maintenance contractors following best practices to ensure public safety, business sustainability, and environmental protection; and **Further That** municipalities in the Lake Simcoe watershed lead by example by ensuring staff and/or winter maintenance contractors that maintain municipal parking lots obtain certification through the Smart About Salt program as a condition of working for the municipality; and **Further That** this resolution be circulated to Lake Simcoe watershed municipalities and Lake Simcoe watershed members of Provincial Parliament; and **Further That** municipalities in the Lake Simcoe watershed implement best management practices for municipal roads management; and **Further That** municipalities in the Lake Simcoe watershed collaborate with the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority on an outreach campaign to raise awareness of this issue, manage expectations from the public regarding salt usage, and inspire positive action.

Pre-Submission Review:

This Staff Report has been reviewed by the General Manager, Integrated Watershed Management and the Chief Administrative Officer.

Signed by:

Don Goodyear
General Manager, Integrated Watershed
Management

Signed by:

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer

Staff Report

To: Board of Directors

From: Don Goodyear, General Manager, Integrated Watershed Management

Date: July 25, 2025

Subject

Summary of 2025 Provincial and Municipal Funding Agreements

Recommendation

That Staff Report No. 25-25-BOD regarding recently secured Provincial and municipal funding be received for information.

Purpose of this Staff Report:

The purpose of this Staff Report No. 25-25-BOD is to provide the Board of Directors with a summary of funding agreements with the Ministry of Environment, Conservation, Parks in support of the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan, as well as agreements with municipal partners to inspect and provide rehabilitation and maintenance recommendations for stormwater assets.

Background:

Since 2012, the Conservation Authority has entered into numerous agreements with the Province for the delivery of projects that support implementation of the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan. In late 2024, staff began negotiations to establish new and amended agreements for the 2025 fiscal year. As a result of these negotiations, the Conservation Authority has established five new agreements, with a sixth currently in queue for approval. Following is a summary of the agreements, which advance initiatives supporting environmental monitoring, watershed planning, restoration, and research and innovation.

Decoupling Phosphorus Loadings and Dissolved Oxygen:

The primary objective of this project is to investigate the observed disconnect between phosphorus loads and the dissolved oxygen concentrations. An improved understanding of changes to lake ecology will assist with adaptive management.

Timeframe: Oct 2024 to Dec 2025, Total Provincial funding: \$164,120.95

Lake Simcoe Tributary Water Quality Monitoring

The objective of this project is to continue monitoring data collection required for water and phosphorus balance calculations for Lake Simcoe. This project includes technical support for those water balance and phosphorus load calculations and publishing of the results.

Timeframe: November 2024 to Dec 2025. Total Provincial funding: \$231,924.58

Lake Simcoe Natural Heritage Monitoring

This funding supports an update to the Conservation Authority's landcover map, which is a critical component of the new natural heritage monitoring program, as it will document changes in impervious and natural heritage features in the watershed. In addition to supporting the natural heritage program, this mapping update will contribute valuable information to the watershed planning, stormwater management and planning and development programs as well.

Timeframe: Oct 2024 to Dec 2025. Total Provincial funding: \$199,707.62

Lake Simcoe Region Subwatershed Evaluations

This agreement builds upon work done by the Conservation Authority with Ministry support in recent years. Information gained through this project will assist the recipient in establishing a multi-metric set of indicators of the health of the Lake Simcoe watershed, targets for those indicators, assess the current health of the lake's subwatersheds with respect to those targets, and consult with stakeholders on measures that could be taken to address issues of concern.

Timeframe: March 2024 to Dec 2025. Total Provincial funding: \$72,044.11

Assessing Flood Mitigation Measures for the City of Barrie

The objective of this project is to build on the first two phases of an assessment of the implications to flooding within the City of Barrie associated with recent and projected future changing climate, identify the trouble spot areas and list of potential solutions derived from the first two phases, and undertake a cost-benefit analysis of the alternatives, using the return on investment tool developed by Credit Valley Conservation.

Timeframe: Jan 2025 to Dec 2025. Total Provincial funding: \$100,788.75

Assessing the adoption of best management practices by the farming community

An additional funding agreement is currently being finalized with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Agribusiness to explore the adoption of farm-based best management practices in the Lake Simcoe watershed. This project will rely on interviews and workshops with farmers and farm sector organizations to gain a better understanding of the feasibility of conventional best management practices, new emerging practices which the conservation authority should consider supporting, and where farmers seek information about best management practices.

Ultimately, this project will help ensure the Restoration program remains relevant to the needs of farmers and effective in the face of a changing climate.

Timeframe: April 2025 to March 2027. Total Provincial funding: \$21,000

Municipal Stormwater Support Agreements:

The Conservation Authority has the in house expertise to provide stormwater inspection and identification of maintenance prioritization services to help municipal partners meet compliance requirements of O.Reg 208/19 (CLI ECA) and O.Reg 588/17 (Asset Management). In 2025 the Conservation Authority is providing Stormwater Facility Inspection support to seven watershed municipalities. The agreements provide various levels of support tailored to the needs of the municipalities. Comprehensive Inspection services, entailing inspection of stormwater ponds and low impact development features, sediment assessment surveys, hydraulic monitoring and maintenance prioritization, are being conducted in Aurora, Newmarket, and Georgina. Comprehensive Inspection services are also being conducted in King with the goal of developing the capacity in King staff. As King straddles the watershed divide, this is being delivered in partnership with Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. Hybrid Inspection services are being conducted in East Gwillimbury with the aim of developing capacity with East Gwillimbury staff. Installation of stormwater pond hydraulic monitoring infrastructure, along with a year of monitoring, is being conducted in the Towns of Innisfil and Bradford West Gwillimbury.

Timeframe: March 2025 to March 2026. Municipal funding: \$380,636

Issues:

Partnerships with the Province through these agreements help advance shared priorities and embody the Conservation Authority's mission of collaborating to protect and restore the Lake Simcoe watershed with innovative research, policy and action. Improving water quality and flood resilience through innovative stormwater management projects by the Restoration team provides direct benefit to the watershed, and refining understanding of lake and watershed stressors and responses to them through enhanced monitoring and research is foundational to adaptive management. The outcomes from each agreement enable the Conservation Authority to better protect and restore the Lake Simcoe watershed.

The municipal stormwater agreements represent a growing partnership to address regulatory changes around stormwater management. These agreements assist municipalities in their compliance with Provincial asset management regulations and Linear Infrastructure Environmental Compliance Approvals and improve the management of stormwater infrastructure. This, in turn, increases watershed resiliency as effectively maintained stormwater infrastructure provides water quality and flood mitigation benefits.

Relevance to Conservation Authority Policy:

All agreements will be undertaken in compliance with any related Conservation Authority policy.

Impact on Conservation Authority Finances:

In accordance with individual agreements, funds will be used to support expenses such as staff salary, equipment, and consultant services. Staff salaries for all new agreements are charged at full cost recovery rates that account for non-billable hours such as vacation. Each agreement also includes an overhead administration charge of 18% of staff salary.

Total revenue from these agreements is \$1,170,222, some of which has only recently been formalized, and if the new and unbudgeted amount is material, it will be incorporated into a forthcoming budget restatement.

Summary and Recommendations:

Negotiations with the Province have resulted in six new agreements in support of the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan. Seven agreements have also been established with municipal partners to assist with stormwater management. The agreements augment existing Conservation Authority programs such as Restoration Services, Watershed Planning, Research and Innovation and Environmental Science and Monitoring, significantly increasing capacity and outcomes.

It is therefore **Recommended That** Staff Report No. 25-25-BOD regarding recently secured Provincial and municipal funding be received for information.

Pre-Submission Review:

This Staff Report has been reviewed by the Chief Administrative Officer.

Signed by:

Signed by:

Don Goodyear
General Manager, Integrated Watershed
ManagementRob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer

Staff Report

To: Board of Directors

From: Rob Baldwin, Chief Administrative Officer

Date: July 25, 2025

Subject:

2025 Annual Priorities – Mid-year Status Update

Recommendation:

That Staff Report No. 26-25-BOD regarding the Mid-year Status of the Conservation Authority's 2025 Annual Priorities be received for information.

Purpose of this Staff Report:

The purpose of this Staff Report No. 26-25-BOD is to provide the Board of Directors with an overview of the Mid-year Status of the Conservation Authority's 2025 Annual Priorities.

Background:

Early each year, the Executive Leadership Team selects Annual Priority projects or initiatives for the ensuing year. These projects or initiatives are considered other than business-as-usual activities and can be single or multi-year priorities. These priorities all support implementation of the Conservation Authority's strategic plan. The following provides a mid-year status for the 2025 Annual Priorities:

1. Complete Construction of the Scanlon Creek Nature Centre

The new Scanlon Creek Nature Centre will provide opportunities for students and community members of all ages to learn about the environment in the natural setting of Scanlon Creek Conservation Area. The project objective is to develop an immersive, sustainable, accessible and flexible teaching facility to replace the existing Centre, which has reached the end of its lifecycle. Funding has been committed through the Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation's Connect Campaign and Federal government, through the Green and Inclusive Community Buildings Program. This project has been a multi-year priority since 2018 with occupancy targeted for 2026. Architectural and landscape design are complete, and the project construction is progressing well and on schedule.

Status Update:

- Foundation and basement walls complete, floors and utility rough-ins and conduits being installed. Concrete work should wrap up in July.

- Ongoing discussion with First Nations communities about development of imagery to be incorporated into concrete walls on the building and a feature wall by the main entrance.
- Work underway to allow transition to construction of wood components – walls, columns, beams and roof.
- Remain on-track for substantial completion in April 2026.

2. Lake Simcoe Conservation Preserve

After being acquired in 2022, this property has been a multi-year priority since 2023. Work continues with Cambium Indigenous Professional Services to broaden our understanding of the cultural and historical significance of the property, seeking to understand it through a two-eyed seeing lens. An Indigenous Knowledge Carrier Council was created and multiple site visits and meetings with members of indigenous communities were conducted, beginning development of recommendations to inform the creation of a long-term Comprehensive Management Plan.

Engagement with partners and stakeholders from the broader watershed community will be initiated to inform management planning in areas of the property identified for public access, ecological restoration, scientific research and monitoring, and other activities that align with established management objectives.

Status Update:

- Land Relationship Visioning and Traditional Ecological Knowledge process wrapping up with a review of the final submission from CIPS;
- Transitioning to broader community engagement;
- Striking partner and stakeholder group to gain broader input for 20-year plan;
- Targeting completion for the plan September 2026.

3. Continue Critical Lake Ecology Research

In collaboration with Provincial and academic partners, continue research to improve our understanding of impacts from the shift to quagga mussel dominance and their invasion of deepwater, as well as changes in the relationship between phosphorus loads and dissolved oxygen, and begin to understand the impact on lake ecology and the food web.

Status Update:

- Field work and monitoring are occurring as well as advanced data analysis.
- To understand the impact of changing mussel populations we partnered with the Large Lakes Observatory, University of Minnesota to adapt their invasive mussel – phosphorus cycling model.

- Preliminary results of this model show that invasive quagga mussels are sequestering phosphorus from lake water in bottom sediments of Lake Simcoe and reducing theoretical phosphorus concentrations, based on loading, by 20-40%.
- Since our 2018 survey, the amount of invasive starry stonewort has declined significantly, confirming a trend reported in 2020 from our Cook's Bay annual monitoring.
- The focus in 2025 and 2026 is to understand the changes in the lake's foodweb since the shift in dominance to quagga mussels and what this might mean for key LSPP indicators such as the coldwater fish community.
- As of the date of this report there has been no harmful algal blooms in Lake Simcoe.

4. Develop an Indigenous Relations Framework

This priority focusses on developing a guidebook and resources to provide staff with consistent direction on effective and respectful approaches to engaging our First Nations communities on issues related to the management of the Lake Simcoe watershed, and how to inform key business areas with a lens of two-eyed seeing.

Interactions between the Conservation Authority and local First Nations have largely developed in an organic and ad hoc nature over the years, depending largely on the working relationship developed by the staff involved on both sides of the partnership. As we become more focussed on advancing reconciliation, we're implementing this project as a way to ensure that engagement of First Nations is done in a manner that is consistent, respectful of rights and knowledge, and is mindful of the limited resources many First Nations communities have.

Status Update:

- Completed extensive scan of other conservation authorities and municipalities to learn their approach; some have indigenous engagement guidelines;
- Currently in Phase 1: Internal Reflection – assembling an internal working group to determine project objectives and expectations of each business unit and to review how we currently engage and where opportunities for improvement exist;
- Next steps include gaining an understanding of the colonial and indigenous history of the Lake Simcoe watershed including treaties.

5. Develop a Talent Management Strategy

To ensure that the Conservation Authority achieves strategic business objectives and continues to provide exceptional customer service, it is important that we create and implement a Talent Management Strategy. The purpose of this strategy is to provide a framework to guide the development and application of human resources practices and ensure we have the programs, policies and people in place to achieve organizational success in the future. This strategy will be developed and implemented in several phases over the course of the upcoming refreshed four-

year strategic plan and will include the following areas: Performance Management, Succession, Training and Development, Compensation, Recruitment and Wellness.

Status Update:

- Full project plan developed for development and implementation over the next 3.5 years.
- Reviewing the current Performance Review documents and consolidating the competency section.
- Updating 1:1 form and adding a section that is better connected to annual priorities and goals and on what staff may need from you as a leader.

6. Rebranding

Looking forward to 2026, our 75th Anniversary, it provides the opportune time to undertake a rebranding exercise. This will include updating our corporate name, visual identity and overall branding strategy to ensure close alignment with our refreshed vision, mission and strategic directions.

Status Update:

- Work on rebranding will commence in Fall of 2025.
- Focus for implementation will be linked to the Authority's 75th anniversary in 2026.

7. Conduct a Flood and Low Water Response Audit

At the core of every conservation authority is the critical lead in emergency management for riparian flooding and an emerging role in urban flooding. Climate change, urban growth, technology, and social media continue to add new complexities in flood and low water response and management. This annual priority will encompass these stressors as we complete an audit of our existing Floodplain Mapping, Flood Forecasting & Warning, as well as Low Water Response programs and subsequent implementation to ensure improved effectiveness.

Status Update:

- Reviewed 31 years of Flood Forecast and Warning data. Evaluating emerging trends and analyzing outlier data.
- Segregating and analyzing riverine and urban runoff, thunderstorm, isolated, distributed and general widespread rainfall.
- Transferring pending hydraulic updates into GIS to combine with GIS dashboard for floodplain status and prioritization of updates.
- Have developed a survey to go to GTA FFW group to help understand where we are relative to our partner Conservation Authorities, what we can learn and/or leverage from their respective programs.

- Review low water program status and management approaches locally and across other Conservation Authorities.
- Beginning initial review of Artificial Intelligence and automated systems to increase efficiency, analysis, and predictive tools.

8. Develop and Implement a Targeted Advocacy Strategy

Looking ahead in 2025, it is anticipated to be a year of change with both Provincial and Federal elections, as well as significant potential challenges associated with Presidential changes south of the border. This situation creates a unique opportunity to increase the advocacy profile for both this Conservation Authority, as well as all conservation authorities and further establish our leadership in integrated watershed management. The past 5 years have clearly demonstrated a greater need for increased advocacy and relationships with all government levels. This increased advocacy will also position the Conservation Authority well looking forward to municipal elections in latter 2026. Key target groups that influence local and Provincial policy and programs relevant to Conservation Authority business will also be included in an increased advocacy approach.

Status Indicator:

- Hosted a media event with Minister McCarthy and Minister Mulroney highlighting the work undertaken as part of several provincial transfer agreements.
- Met with several provincial Ministers, providing input to Dawn Gallagher-Murphy on a private members bill.
- Met with several watershed Federal Members of Parliament.
- Plan to meet with remaining watershed Members of Provincial and Federal governments during the summer break.
- Hosted a BILD liaison meeting in June and received strong support.
- Will be attending the annual Association of Municipalities of Ontario conference in July.

9. Finalize Watershed Indicators

In collaboration with the Lake Simcoe Science and Coordinating Committees, develop a set of metrics to gauge the health of the lake and its tributaries and improve our understanding of the multi-faceted nature of the watershed.

Status Update:

- Targets and indicators drafted to gauge status and progress on both tributary and lake water quality and water quantity elements, as well as the natural heritage system

- Status update presented to Lake Simcoe Science and Coordinating Committees as well as full management team at the Authority and constructive feedback incorporated into the draft indicators
- Next steps include drafting subwatershed specific targets and indicators as well as a dashboard to communicate progress

10. Advance Development of an Internal Digital Business Portal

This is a multi-year project to develop online platforms to provide a centralized space to facilitate internal collaboration, enhanced business communications, access to tools, information, and support streamlined business processes.

Status Update:

- Draft Digital Strategy developed and shared with all staff.
- RFP for consultant to help build online business portal in progress.
- Department interviews conducted to build core components of business portal for all.
- Next steps once consultant is chosen is to develop workplan and timelines.

Issues

Every year begins with a set of Annual Priorities, implementing activities driving the strategic plan forward, and a focus on client service. Every year also brings surprises and new challenges that can both accelerate and improve or detract from programs and services. The priorities outlined in this report for 2025 are priorities that ensure the Conservation Authority continues moving forward in times of constant change, while always focused on the core mission to protect and restore Lake Simcoe.

Progress on the 2025 Annual Priorities is occurring on track with no issues of concern currently. Certain Annual Priorities will straddle into 2026 which is expected.

The potential for a new Annual Priority to be added will centre around the creation by the Province of the Chief Conservation Executive. The role and responsibilities for this position are not known at this time but likely indicates the potential for further Conservation Authority transition and evolution.

Relevance to Conservation Authority Policy:

All Conservation Authority Annual Priorities are undertaken and implemented in accordance with Conservation Authority Policy. There is potential that the conclusions and/or recommendations from any of the priorities may lead to creating new policies or policy amendments. These will be brought before the Board as required.

Impact on Conservation Authority Finances:

There is currently no direct impact on Conservation Authority finances as the Annual Priorities are funded within the 2025 budget. Any potential or future financial impacts will be identified as they arise. Some Annual Priorities may bring additional funding to the Conservation Authority allowing for increased implementation, increased overhead contribution, and opportunities for cost sharing allowing increased scale of project delivery.

Summary and Recommendations:

It is therefore **Recommended That** Staff Report No. 26-25-BOD regarding the Mid-year Status of the Conservation Authority's 2025 Annual Priorities be received for information.

Signed by:

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer

Staff Report

To: Board of Directors

From: Ashlea Brown, Sr. Director, Development Services and Dave Ruggle, Manager Planning

Date: July 25, 2025

Subject

Monitoring Report – Planning and Development Applications for the Period January 1 through June 30, 2025

Recommendation

That Staff Report No. 27-25-BOD regarding monitoring of development services applications for the period January 1 through June 30, 2025 be received for information.

Purpose of this Staff Report

The purpose of this Staff Report No. 27-25-BOD is to provide the Board of Directors with an update of the applications, under the *Planning Act* (Planning Approvals), *Conservation Authorities Act* (Permits), and Environmental Assessments submitted to the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority for the period January 1 through June 30, 2025.

Background

A summary of the total number of applications for this period is shown in Tables 1, 2, and 3 attached. These tables summarize the number of applications received by application type and by municipality, as well as the number of pre-consultations, non-application technical reviews, and general inquiries received by Conservation Authority staff. The type of applications reviewed and processed are statutory requirements under the following legislation:

Planning Act (Table 1):

- Official Plans, Secondary Plans, Community Plans and Amendments
- Comprehensive Zoning By-Laws and Amendments
- Consent and Minor Variance Applications
- Plans of Subdivision and Condominium
- Site Plan Applications

Conservation Authorities Act (Tables 2 and 3)

- Section 28 Permit Applications
- Public Information Requests (PIR)
- Site Clearances
- Solicitor Inquiries

Other Legislation (Table 2)

- Undertakings in accordance with the *Environmental Assessment Act*.

To provide a comparison, Tables 4, 5, and 6 summarize the total number of development applications and inquiries for the same period in 2024. Tables 1 and 4 also provide the number of non-application technical reviews, peer reviews and pre-consultation reviews, which were carried out during this period in 2024 and 2025 for applications. Tables 3 and 6 provide the number of general inquiries associated with permits under the *Conservation Authorities Act* received this period in 2024 and 2025 respectively.

Planning Act Approval Applications

Overall *Planning Act* application volumes decreased from 266 applications to 141 applications (not including site visits, and pre-consultations) for this period vs 2024, representing a 47% decrease.

There was a 42% decrease in the number of pre-consultations, from 189 (2024) to 110 (2025). Subdivision related applications (e.g. plans of subdivisions, extensions, etc.) also showed a significant decline with a 50% reduction over this period last year as did site plans with a 40% decrease. Consents and minor variances saw a slight decrease (21%) from 2024 numbers.

Generally, to the end of June 2025, staff noted a widespread decrease in planning applications across most application types and municipalities. Most notably, pre-consultation and major applications have decreased reflecting an overall market slowdown or delay in project initiation. Some categories such as minor Zoning By-Law amendments remained stable; however, the overall trend indicates a slower development climate in the first half of 2025 compared to the same period in 2024.

Conservation Authorities Act

Tables 2 and 5 provide a detailed comparison of permits, legal inquiries, site clearances, and Environmental Assessments for the periods of January 1 to June 30, 2025, and January 1 to June 30, 2024, respectively.

The total number of applications received under the *Conservation Authorities Act* including permit applications, legal inquiries, site clearances, and Environmental Assessments has decreased by 10% compared to the same period in 2024.

Overall, permit application volumes remain relatively consistent, with only six fewer applications submitted, a decline of less than 2%; however, major permit applications saw a significant decrease where minor and routine applications increased. A decrease in site clearance applications was expected due to recent legislative changes; however, the decline was smaller than anticipated, with a 28% reduction compared to last year. Legal inquiries also declined by 18%. Similar to the trend observed in planning pre-consultations, this reduction as

well as the reduction in general inquiries likely reflects a general slowdown in the current housing market.

Tables 3 and 6 summarize general inquiries related to regulations and permitting. In 2025, regulations staff responded to 611 inquiries—a 33% decrease from the same period in 2024.

Issues

In general, staff are seeing a trend of reduced development in all sectors attributed to higher interest rates, rising construction costs, labor shortages, a weak buyer demand, along with other factors has reduced housing approvals and starts province wide. Despite provincial and municipal efforts to increase supply, built volumes are well below the 2031 Provincial goal of 150,000 homes built per year. However, despite the reduction in volume, the Conservation Authority continues to experience increasing operational pressure in the development services department related to the review and approval of development applications. The increased complexity of applications continues to be flagged. The majority of applications received are located in areas that are subject to natural hazards, which require more in-depth technical review and increase the time associated with the review. Additionally, the increasing pressures of shorter review and approval timelines and expectations, coupled with the legislative changes, have added layers of intricacy to many of the applications that staff are reviewing. Staff spend a significant time meeting with municipal partners and applicants to develop solutions to growth pressures on these challenging sites.

Relevance to Conservation Authority Policy

Client service and satisfaction continues to be a top priority for the Conservation Authority and staff. Senior staff continue to work with Conservation Ontario, as well as industry partners, to identify opportunities to further streamline the plan and permit review processes to facilitate more timely approvals. Monitoring applications, along with their complexity, is important for ensuring staff are capable of meeting customer service targets as well as budget expectations.

Impact on Conservation Authority Finances

Development Services operates on a cost recovery basis utilizing a fee for service principle, and as such changes in application numbers impact the budget. Continued monitoring of application numbers is important to understand staffing requirements of the departments and to assess revenue generation against the approved budget. The Minister of Natural Resources extended the fee freeze for 2025, which is now in the third year prohibiting adjustment in fees whether to address complexity and/or inflation. The Conservation Authority will continue to monitor budget implications throughout the year.

Summary and Recommendations

It is therefore **Recommended That** Staff Report No. 27-25-BOD regarding monitoring of planning and development applications for the period January 1 through June 30, 2025, be received for information.

Pre-Submission Review

This Staff Report has been reviewed by the General Manager, Development, Engineering and Restoration and the Chief Administrative Officer.

Signed by:

Glenn MacMillan
General Manager, Development,
Engineering and Restoration

Signed by:

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments:

Tables 1, 2, and 3 – Summary of Development Services Program Statistics – January 1 – June 30, 2025
Tables 4, 5, and 6 – Summary of Development Services Program Statistics – January 1 – June 30, 2024

Table 1
Summary of Planning Program Statistics January 1- June 30, 2025 - Review of Applications under the Planning Act

Application Type	City of Kawartha Lakes	City of Orillia	City of Barrie	County of Simcoe					Region of Durham				Region of York						Region of Peel (Incl Caledon)	Township of Essa	Total Number of Applications by Type		
				Bradford West Gwillimbury	Innisfil	New Tecumseth	Oro-Medonte	Ramara	Brock	Scugog	Uxbridge	Region of Durham	Aurora	East Gwillimbury	Georgina	King	Newmarket	Whitchurch-Stouffville				Region of York	
Official Plans, Official Plan Amendments/Secondary Plan	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Official Plan Amendment/Zoning Bylaw	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	13
Official Plan Amendment/Zoning Bylaw/Site Plan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Official Plan Amendment/Zoning Bylaw/Subdivision	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	5
Site Visits	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Zoning By-laws, Min.	1	0	2	1	0	0	2	2	0	0	3	0	0	2	6	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	25
Zoning By-laws, Major	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Plans of Subdivision, Plans of Condominium	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Subdivision Request for Extension/Greater than 3 Submis./Redline	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Draft Plan of Subdivision Request for Extension of Approval	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Site Plans	0	0	6	0	6	0	1	1	1	0	3	0	4	5	2	2	4	3	0	0	0	0	38
Consents/MV Minor	3	0	2	1	3	1	7	0	1	0	2	0	1	2	8	6	1	4	0	0	0	0	42
Consents/MV Major	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Peer Review	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tech Review/ Special Studies	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	5
Preconsultation	3	0	19	8	10	0	3	5	2	1	2	0	14	11	17	6	8	1	0	0	0	0	110
Total Number of Applications by Municipality	8	0	36	18	23	1	13	9	5	1	12	0	26	27	36	19	16	10	1	0	0	0	261

Table 2
Summary of Regulations Program Statistics January 1- June 30, 2025 - Review of Applications under the Conservation Authorities Act and Environmental Assessment Act

Application Type	City of Kawartha Lakes	City of Orillia	City of Barrie	County of Simcoe					Region of Durham				Region of York						Region of Peel (incl Caledon)	Township of Essa	Total Number of Applications by Type	
				Bradford West Gwillimbury	Innisfil	New Tecumseth	Oro-Medonte	Ramara	Brock	Scugog	Uxbridge	Region of Durham	Aurora	East Gwillimbury	Georgina	King	Newmarket	Whitchurch-Stouffville				Region of York
Section 28 Applications	5	0	44	14	61	1	25	37	22	1	17	0	16	25	55	14	17	8	0	0	0	362
Legal Inquiries	0	0	7	0	3	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	4	8	6	6	4	1	0	0	0	43
Site Clearances	1	1	14	23	16	0	7	3	4	0	5	0	11	34	14	12	6	4	0	0	0	155
Environmental Assessment Undertakings	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Total Number of Applications by Municipality	6	1	65	38	80	1	33	40	27	1	24	0	32	67	77	32	27	13	0	0	0	564

Table 3
Summary of Regulations Program Customer Service Statistics January 1 - June 30, 2025

Application Type	City of Kawartha Lakes	Outside of Watershed & General	City of Barrie	County of Simcoe					Region of Durham				Region of York						Region of Peel (incl Caledon)	Township of Essa	Total Number of Applications by Type	
				Bradford West Gwillimbury	Innisfil	New Tecumseth	Oro-Medonte	Ramara	Brock	Scugog	Uxbridge	Region of Durham	Aurora	East Gwillimbury	Georgina	King	Newmarket	Whitchurch-Stouffville				Region of York
Calls / Emails	5	19	15	23	56	1	20	39	61	3	36	0	12	66	164	40	20	17	0	0	0	597
Counter Visits	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	3	0	0	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
Total Number of Applications by Municipality	6	19	15	23	56	1	21	40	61	3	39	0	12	69	169	40	20	17	0	0	0	611

Table 4
Summary of Planning Program Statistics January 1- June 30, 2024 - Review of Applications under the Planning Act

Application Type	City of Kawartha Lakes	City of Orillia	City of Barrie	County of Simcoe					Region of Durham				Region of York						Region of Peel (Incl Caledon)	Township of Essa	Total Number of Applications by Type
				Bradford West Gwillimbury	Innisfil	New Tecumseth	Oro-Medonte	Ramara	Brock	Scugog	Uxbridge	Region of Durham	Aurora	East Gwillimbury	Georgina	King	Newmarket	Whitchurch-Stouffville			
Official Plans, Official Plan Amendments/Secondary Plan	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	10
Official Plan Amendment/Zoning Bylaw	0	0	1	0	3	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	4	0	0	0	16
Official Plan Amendment/Zoning Bylaw/Site Plan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Official Plan Amendment/Zoning Bylaw/Subdivision	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Site Visits	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	8
Zoning By-laws, Min.	1	0	9	1	1	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	1	1	2	0	0	24
Zoning By-laws, Major	1	0	8	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	17
Plans of Subdivision, Plans of Condominium	1	0	4	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	16
Subdivision Request for Extension/Greater than 3 Submis./Redline	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Draft Plan of Subdivision Request for Extension of Approval	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Site Plans	0	0	14	4	4	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	7	10	3	3	5	1	0	0	53
Consents/MV Minor	3	0	2	6	4	0	13	4	7	0	16	0	13	7	17	3	14	13	1	0	123
Consents/MV Major	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	5
Peer Review	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Tech Review/ Special Studies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Preconsultation	2	0	43	7	10	0	8	7	10	1	7	0	26	25	20	9	8	5	0	1	189
Total Number of Applications by Municipality	8	0	87	23	28	1	25	16	18	1	28	0	54	51	49	17	35	24	1	2	468

Table 5
Summary of Regulations Program Statistics January 1 - June 30, 2024 - Review of Applications under the Conservation Authorities Act and Environmental Assessment Act

Application Type	City of Kawartha Lakes	City of Orillia	City of Barrie	County of Simcoe					Region of Durham				Region of York						Region of Peel (incl Caledon)	Total Number of Applications by Type		
				Bradford West Gwillimbury	Innisfil	New Tecumseth	Oro-Medonte	Ramara	Brock	Scotog	Uxbridge	Region of Durham	Aurora	East Gwillimbury	Georgina	King	Newmarket	Whitchurch-Stouffville			Region of York	
Section 28 Applications	5	0	25	15	50	1	31	34	25	3	12	0	26	40	64	14	16	7	0	0	0	368
Legal Inquiries	0	0	3	3	1	0	3	1	1	0	4	0	5	7	7	6	8	4	0	0	0	53
Site Clearances	1	0	18	13	29	1	9	4	12	0	15	0	7	35	28	15	7	5	0	0	0	199
Environmental Assessment Undertakings	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	4
Total Number of Applications by Municipality	6	0	47	31	80	2	44	39	38	3	31	0	38	83	99	35	31	16	1	0	0	624

Table 6
Summary of Regulations Program Customer Service Statistics January 1 - June 30, 2024

Application Type	City of Kawartha Lakes	Outside of Watershed & General	City of Barrie	County of Simcoe					Region of Durham				Region of York						Region of Peel (incl Caledon)	Total Number of Applications by Type		
				Bradford West Gwillimbury	Innisfil	New Tecumseth	Oro-Medonte	Ramara	Brock	Scotog	Uxbridge	Region of Durham	Aurora	East Gwillimbury	Georgina	King	Newmarket	Whitchurch-Stouffville			Region of York	
Calls / Emails	7	29	43	37	80	3	21	51	73	3	58	0	41	100	223	42	25	29	0	0	0	865
Counter Visits	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	6	0	2	10	15	0	2	2	0	0	0	41
Total Number of Applications by Municipality	7	29	44	37	82	4	21	51	73	3	64	0	43	110	238	42	27	31	0	0	0	906