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AUTHORITY MEETING

Meeting Date/Time: Thursday July 20, 2023, 1:00 p.m.

Contact: Janice Hagan, Executive Assistant

519-364-1255 Ext. 221 or j.hagan@svca.on.ca

The next regular meeting of the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority Board of Directors is scheduled for Thursday, July 20, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting will be conducted onsite and in person at the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority Administrative office, 1078 Bruce Rd 12, Formosa, ON, N0G 1W0

Please notify Janice Hagan if you are unable to attend.

Directors:

Chair: Barbara Dobreen	Township of Southgate Municipality of Kincardine
Vice Chair: Tom Hutchinson	Municipality of West Grey
2nd Vice Chair: Paul Allen	Municipality of Grey Highlands
Member-at-Large: Steve McCabe	Township of Wellington-North, Town of Minto
Larry Allison	Township of Huron-Kinloss
Kevin Eccles	Municipality of West Grey
Bud Halpin	Town of Saugeen Shores
Gregory McLean	Municipality of Brockton
Dave Myette	Town of Saugeen Shores
Mike Niesen	Municipality of South Bruce, Township of Howick, Municipality of Morris-Turnberry
Moiken Penner	Municipality of Arran-Elderslie
Sue Paterson	Town of Hanover
Jennifer Prenger	Municipality of Kincardine
Bill Stewart	Municipality of Kincardine
Peter Whitten	Township of Chatsworth

Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority

Authority Meeting

Thursday, July 20, 2023, 1:00 p.m.

Agenda

1. Land Acknowledgement

We begin our meeting today by respectfully acknowledging the Anishinaabeg Nation, the Haudensaunee, the Neutral, and the Petun peoples as the traditional keepers of this land. We are committed to moving forward in the spirit of reconciliation with First Nation, Métis, and Inuit peoples.

2. Closed Session - to discuss personal matters regarding an identifiable individual.

THAT the Authority move into Closed Session, In Camera to discuss matters related to personal matters about identifiable individual(s); and further

THAT Laura Molson and Janice Hagan remain in the meeting.

3. Adoption of agenda

THAT the agenda for the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority, July 20, 2023, be adopted as circulated.

4. Declaration of pecuniary interest

5. Approval of minutes of Authority meeting – May 18, 2023

THAT the minutes of the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority meeting, May 18, 2023, be approved as presented.

6. Reports for information

6.1. 2023 Workplan Update

6.2. Finance report

6.3. Program report

6.4. Approved committee minutes

6.4.1. Executive Committee – April 6, 2023

6.4.2. Executive Committee – May 4, 2023

6.4.3. Water Resources Committee – May 4, 2023

6.4.4. Water Resources Committee – June 5, 2023

6.5. News articles for Members' information

6.6. Correspondence

7. Matters arising from the minutes

7.1. SVCA Category 3 Programs and Services –Ashley Richards

THAT Saugeen Conservation Valley Conservation Authority Board of Directors direct staff to commence negotiations with its watershed municipal councils pertaining to the Category 3 Cost Apportioning Agreements;

THAT the Board of Directors grant staff the authority to request an extension from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to the January 1, 2024, deadline; and

FURTHER THAT the Board of Directors directs staff to bring back a Stewardship Business Case to the October 19th, 2023 meeting, along with an estimated budget.

7.2. Federal Hazard Identification and Mapping Program (FHIMP) – Budget Allocation – Elise MacLeod

THAT the FHIMP Durham Creek flood hazard mapping project budget be approved up to \$50,000 plus HST; and further

THAT the FHIMP Town of Saugeen Shores flood hazard mapping project budget be approved up to \$80,000 plus HST.

8. New business

8.1. Water Resources – Proposed Staffing Plan – Elise MacLeod

THAT the proposed Water Resources staffing plan be endorsed and incorporated into the 2024 SVCA budget.

8.2. NWMO – Year Three Scope of Work negotiation – Elise MacLeod

WHEREAS Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority entered into a Service Level Agreement to complete years one and two of the NWMO's Environmental Media Baseline Monitoring (EMBP) Program (water quality and hydrology components);

BE IT RESOLVED THAT SVCA staff are directed to enter into a renewed scope of work for NWMO EMBP Year 3, January to December 2024; and further

THAT staff are authorized to hire the necessary staff to carry out the work, as specified in the renewed scope of work, provided that no costs are borne by the Authority.

8.3. Permits issued for endorsement – Erik Downing

THAT the Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourse applications (23-084 - 23-179, save 23-158, 23-150), pursuant to Ontario Regulation 169/06, as approved by staff, be endorsed.

8.4. Section 28 Permit Application: Proposed Southampton Seniors Care Facility – Brandi Walter

THAT the SVCA Board of Directors approve permit application number 23-126 for reconstruction of the Southampton Seniors Care Centre, including construction of a new building, and to carry out associated excavation, filling, and grading in the one-zone regulatory floodplain; and

THAT the SVCA Board of Directors approve permit application 23-126 with conditions noted on Schedule 2 of the attached draft permit; and

FURTHER THAT the Board of Directors approve permit application number 23-126 for a validity period of 60 months.

8.5. Agriculture Advisory Committee – Member appointment – Erik Downing

THAT Adam Dales be appointed to the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority Agricultural Advisory Committee for the 2023 calendar year.

8.6. Terms of Reference Approval – Agricultural Advisory Committee

THAT the proposed Terms of Reference for the Agricultural Advisory Committee be endorsed

9. Closed Session – to discuss matters related to litigation or potential litigation affecting the Authority, and personal matters regarding an identifiable individual(s).

THAT the Authority move to Closed Session In Camera to discuss matters related to litigation or potential litigation affecting or may affect the Authority, including a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the Authority and to discuss personal matters regarding identifiable individual(s); and further

THAT Laura Molson, Erik Downing, Elise MacLeod, Madeline McFadden, and Janice Hagan remain in the meeting as required.

10. Adjournment

THAT the meeting be adjourned.



Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority

Minutes – Board of Directors

Date: Thursday May 18, 2023, 1:00 p.m.
Location: Administration Office, Formosa, ON
Chair: Barbara Dobreen
Members present: Paul Allen, Larry Allison, Kevin Eccles, Bud Halpin, Tom Hutchinson, Steve McCabe, Greg McLean, Dave Myette, Mike Niesen, Sue Paterson, Moiken Penner, Jennifer Prenger, Bill Stewart, Peter Whitten
Staff present: Jennifer Stephens, Matt Armstrong, Erik Downing, Donna Lacey, Elise MacLeod, Laura Molson, Janice Hagan

Chair Barbara Dobreen called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

1.0 Land Acknowledgement

The Land Acknowledgement was read by Kevin Eccles:

We begin our meeting today by respectfully acknowledging the Anishinaabeg Nation, the Haudensaunee, the Neutral, and the Petun peoples as the traditional keepers of this land. We are committed to moving forward in the spirit of reconciliation with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples.

2.0 Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was amended as follows:

- Presentation #5.0 was cancelled.
- Report #6.0, GM Report, was added.
- Report #9.2, SVCA Programs and Services, was added.
- Report #9.7, Flood Hazard Identification Mapping Project (FHIMP) Contract Award, was amended.

Motion #G23-39

Moved by Greg McLean

Seconded by Bill Stewart

THAT the SVCA Board of Directors adopt the agenda for the Authority meeting on May 18, 2023, as amended.

Carried

3.0 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest relative to any item on the agenda.

4.0 Adoption of Authority meeting minutes – March 16, 2023

Motion #G23-40

Moved by Tom Hutchinson

Seconded by Steve McCabe

THAT the minutes of the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority meeting, March 16, 2023, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

5.0 Presentations – none at this time.

6.0 General Manager’s Report

There was no discussion.

7.0 Matters arising from the minutes – None at this time.

8.0 Reports for information

8.1 2023 Workplan update

There was no discussion.

8.2 Finance Report

There was no discussion.

8.3 Program Report

There was no discussion.

8.4 News Articles for Members’ information

There was no discussion.

8.5 Correspondence

There was no discussion.

8.6 Violation Update

There was no discussion.

9.0 New Business

9.1 2023-2033 Strategic Plan

The final draft of the Strategic Plan was presented to the Board of Directors. Staff were directed to schedule a separate Authority meeting to review the Plan in more detail.

Motion #G23-41

Moved by Tom Hutchinson

Seconded by Peter Whitten

That the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority Board of Directors receives for information the draft 10-year Strategic Plan for the period of 2023-2033 as presented; and

THAT the Board hold a strategic plan session at a future separate meeting.

Carried

9.2 SVCA Programs and Services

Staff are pursuing the establishment of municipal agreements that will allow SVCA to maintain Category 3 programs and services. Staff will prepare a business case for category 3 programs and services and a draft cost-apportioning agreement for municipal consideration.

Motion #G23-42

Moved by Larry Allison

Seconded by Bud Halpin

THAT Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority continue to offer Category 3 non-mandatory programs and services related to public awareness and communication, water quality monitoring, and stewardship to its watershed municipalities; and

THAT all watershed municipalities participate in order for all or any of the Category 3 non-mandatory programs and services to continue, and

THAT the Board of Directors directs staff to prepare a business case for Category 3 non-mandatory programs and services specifically water quality monitoring, stewardship, and public awareness/communications services associated with these activities; and

THAT the Board of Directors directs staff to prepare a Category 3 cost-apportioning agreement to seek municipal support to continue to fund the non-mandatory programs and services outlined above; and

THAT the Board of Directors directs staff to pursue discussions with municipalities regarding these draft Category 3 Agreements; and

FURTHER THAT the Board of Directors directs staff to bring back the Agreement for negotiation with municipalities at the July 20th meeting.

Carried

9.3 Grey County Prosecutor Pilot Program

Staff recommend a trial one-year pilot program for the use of Grey County legal services for the prosecution of violations under the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

Motion #G23-43

Moved by Paul Allen

Seconded by Tom Hutchinson

THAT the SVCA Board of Directors directs staff to negotiate and execute a one-year Pilot Program Agreement with Grey County for use of the Crown Prosecutor to try charges under the *Conservation Authorities Act*. This program would financially benefit the Authority as these legal resources would be a shared use of public sector dollars.

Carried

9.4 Permits Issued

Permits issued by SVCA staff are endorsed by the Board of Directors. There was no discussion on the staff report.

Motion #G23-44

Moved by Larry Allison

Seconded by Bill Stewart

THAT the Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourse applications (23-030-23-083, save 23-043), pursuant to Ontario Regulation 169/06, as approved by staff, be endorsed.

Carried

9.5 Durham Upper Dam Environmental Assessment

An engineering assessment of the Durham upper dam resulted in recommendations to complete a full rehabilitation of the dam structure and a Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) prior to undertaking any work. Staff have applied for funding from the Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) and the Municipality of West Grey, as the benefiting municipality, would contribute the remaining costs.

Motion #G23-45

Moved by Paul Allen

Seconded by Steve McCabe

THAT staff proceed with Phase 1 of an Environmental Assessment for the Durham Upper Dam, pending Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) funding;

AND FURTHER THAT the Municipality of West Grey be deemed the benefiting municipality, contributing 100% of the project costs not covered by grant funding.

Carried

9.6 Watershed Report Card

Staff presented the completed Watershed Report Cards for the Authority which are developed every five (5) years. It was noted that continued participation in the collection of benthic macroinvertebrates through the Ontario Benthos Biomonitoring Network will require an agreement with each municipality as this is a Category 3 program and service.

Motion #G23-46

Moved by Sue Paterson

Seconded by Greg McLean

THAT the SVCA Board of Directors receive Report #9.6, Watershed Report Cards, for information.

Carried

9.7 Flood Hazard Identification Mapping Project (FHIMP) Contract Award

An amended report was circulated to the Authority as new information from the RFP results was included. RFPs had been issued to retain consultants to complete flood hazard mapping in the Municipality of West Grey, Town of Saugeen Shores, and the Township of Huron-Kinloss. After discussion the following motion carried:

Motion #G23-47

Moved by Steve McCabe

Seconded by Kevin Eccles

THAT D.M. Wills Associates Limited be retained to complete flood hazard mapping for Durham Creek, in the Municipality of West Grey at a cost of \$45,530.00 plus HST; and

THAT Water's Edge Environmental Solutions Team Ltd. be retained to complete flood hazard mapping for eight (8) watercourses and one provisional watercourse in the Town of Saugeen Shores at a cost of \$63,217.50 plus HST; and

THAT Water's Edge Environmental Solutions Team Ltd. be retained to complete flood hazard mapping for six (6) watercourses, a portion of Clark's Creek and the entire Pine River in the Township of Huron-Kinloss at a cost of \$123,905 plus HST; and

THAT the additional \$73,905.00 plus HST, above FHIMP funding, be 100% contributed by the Township of Huron-Kinloss; and

FURTHER THAT \$20,000 for SVCA's contribution towards all three floodplain mapping projects for peer review services be drawn from deferred revenue.

Carried

9.8 Walkerton Hydro Dam

The Walkerton Hydro Dam, owned by SVCA, was assessed by engineering consultants in 2022 and is reported to be in poor condition. A potential investor has initiated a discussion with staff regarding the potential of leasing the dam structure for the purpose of producing hydroelectric power. After discussion, the following motion carried:

Motion #G23-48

Moved by Bill Stewart

Seconded by Tom Hutchinson

THAT staff be directed to discontinue lease discussions with a potential investor regarding rehabilitation of the Walkerton Hydro Dam.

Carried

9.9 Appointments to Agricultural Advisory Committee

The Agricultural Advisory Committee is to be re-established and will have its inaugural meeting at the beginning of June. The goal of the committee is to improve communications with the agriculture community.

Motion #G23-49

Moved by Bill Stewart

Seconded by Tom Hutchinson

THAT Chris Cossitt, Les Nichols, Paul Wettlaufer, Karen Gorman, Katie Normet, Allan Willits, and Meg Roberts be appointed to the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority Agricultural Advisory Committee for the 2023 calendar year.

Carried

9.10 Conservation Authority Content Management System

Staff recommend the Content Management System created by Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority as the most appropriate system for use by SVCA. The system is already being utilized by other conservation authorities as it has been designed specifically to meet the needs of the Environmental Planning and Regulations department.

Motion #G23-50

Moved by Bill Stewart

Seconded by Mike Niesen

THAT the SVCA Board of Directors directs staff to negotiate and execute an Agreement with Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority to acquire the Conservation Authority Content Management System; and

FURTHER THAT the \$20,000 cost for the Conservation Authority Content Management System and the data import of historical environmental planning and regulations files be drawn from the working capital reserve.

Carried

9.11 Administrative Bylaws

The Administrative Bylaws have been amended to reflect the changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act* and have been reviewed by legal counsel.

Motion #G23-51

Moved by Larry Allison

Seconded by Greg McLean

THAT the Board of Directors of the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority approves the attached amended Administrative Bylaws including appendices.

Amendment:

Moved by Tom Hutchinson

Seconded by Dave Myette

THAT the Bylaws be amended to increase agenda circulation time for Committees from 48 hours to 7 days.

The members discussed the amendment, and it was withdrawn. The original motion carried.

9.12 Hybrid Meeting Options

The Authority Members have requested the option of conducting hybrid meetings in case scheduling does not permit travel to the Administration office in Formosa. Staff recommend that the Owl 3 camera be purchased for this purpose. The Directors discussed the potential need for an extra microphone(s) due to the size of the boardroom.

Motion #G23-52

Moved by Tom Hutchinson

Seconded by Kevin Eccles

THAT Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority allow hybrid meetings to be conducted; and
FURTHER THAT the Board directs staff to purchase the Owl 3 camera and Owl Connect with funds from the 2023 Building Maintenance budget.

Amendment:

Moved by Sue Paterson

Seconded by Steve McCabe

THAT the motion be amended to upset the requested amount to \$5000 to include a microphone or other equipment as required.

Carried

10.0 Closed Session – to discuss matters related to litigation or potential litigation affecting the Authority, advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, and personal matters about an identifiable individual.

Motion #G23-53

Moved by Greg McLean

Seconded by Steve McCabe

THAT the Board of Directors of the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority moves to Closed Session, In Camera to discuss matters related to litigation or potential litigation affecting the Authority, advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, and personal matters about an identifiable individual; and

THAT Jennifer Stephens, Laura Molson, and Janice Hagan remain in the meeting; and

THAT Elise MacLeod remains in the meeting for Reports 5.1 – 5.3 only; and FURTHER

THAT Donna Lacey remains in the meeting for Reports 5.3 – 5.4 only.

Carried

Motion #G23-56

Moved by Moiken Penner

Seconded by Greg McLean

THAT the Board of Directors adjourn from Closed Session, In Camera, and rise and report.

Carried

Chair Dobreen reported that only the items pertaining to the reasons for the Closed Session were discussed. The following motions passed in open session:

Motion #G23-57

Moved by Steve McCabe

Seconded by Bill Stewart

THAT the repair of the East Riverbank Gabion Baskets Project be awarded to VanDriel Excavating Inc., for \$435,326.00 plus HST, pending the Municipality of West Grey Council approval, Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure Program (WECI) funding, permits from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA), as well as landowner consent; and

THAT the Municipality of West Grey be deemed the benefitting Municipality, responsible for 100% of the construction costs, at \$435,326.00 plus HST, less WECI funding; and

THAT the cost of engineering be split 50:50 between SVCA and the Municipality of West Grey for Phase 2 of the project, SVCA's portion to be drawn from the Capital Project – West Grey Projects Reserve Fund; and

FURTHER THAT staff engage legal counsel for landowner consent to access and complete the gabion basket repairs, across all five (5) affected properties.

Carried

Motion #G23-58

Moved by Bud Halpin

Seconded by Paul Allen

THAT the Board of Directors directs staff to consult with legal counsel and our insurer regarding the state of SVCA's water and erosion control infrastructure; and

THAT all associated costs for this consultation, to an upset limit of \$20,000, come from Working Capital Reserves.

Carried

Motion #G23-59

Moved by Mike Niesen

Seconded by Bill Stewart

THAT staff be directed to research appropriate asset management software to aid with infrastructure management and long-term capital forecasting; and

FURTHER THAT staff be directed to bring back recommendations regarding asset management software at a future Board of Directors meeting.

Carried

Motion #G23-60

Moved by Mike Niesen

Seconded by Greg McLean

THAT Varney Pond be closed until further notice; and

FURTHER THAT staff be directed to proceed with the communications campaign to advise the public, stakeholders, and the municipality of plans not to fill the pond.

Carried

The Directors noted that approval of the motion was not unanimous.

Motion #G23-61

Moved by Sue Paterson

Seconded by Jennifer Prenger

THAT the Board of Directors approves hiring a 2-month full-time contract staff position to support the lands management team; and

FURTHER THAT the funds be drawn from the Working Capital Reserve.

Carried

11.0 Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m. on the motion of Tom Hutchinson and Peter Whitten.

Barbara Dobreen
Chair

Janice Hagan
Recording Secretary



SVCA 2023 Operational Plan – July 20, 2023

Department: Corporate Services

SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY	2023 OPERATIONAL TASK	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	RESPONSIBLE FOR DELIVERABLE
Communications	General support to all departments (marketing, document preparation, social media, website maintenance)	Ongoing	L. Molson
Education	Deliver educational programming (DEER, Water Festival)	Ongoing	L. Molson
GIS	Update regulation and hazard mapping with new information	Ongoing	L. Molson
Finance	Day-to-day processing of payables and receivables	Ongoing	L. Molson
Administration	Continue to develop and / or renew health and safety policies.	Ongoing	J. Stephens
Administration	<i>Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act</i> Compliance	Ongoing	J. Hagan
Administration	Acquisition of Content Management System	May July 2023	J. Stephens
Human Resources	Accessibility and Accommodation Policy Development	May October 2023	J. Stephens
Administration	Consult with municipalities on the Inventory of Programs and Services	April 2023 Complete	J. Stephens
Finance	Payment Processing Policy	May October 2023	L. Molson
Finance	Complete 2022 Audit	March 2023 Complete	L. Molson
Administration	Development of SVCA's 2023-2033 Strategic Plan	May October 2023	J. Stephens
Administration	Board Orientation and Onboarding	March 2023	J. Stephens
Human Resources	Emergency Contact Plan	April October 2023	L. Molson
Human Resources	Modernize SVCA's Personnel Policy	May October 2023	J. Stephens



SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY	2023 OPERATIONAL TASK	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	RESPONSIBLE FOR DELIVERABLE
Human Resources	Conflict Resolution Policy	May October 2023	J. Stephens
Administration	Negotiate agreements with municipalities for Category 2 and 3 Programs and Services	July October 2023	J. Stephens
Administration	Document Retention Policy	July October 2023	J. Stephens
Finance	Budget format and chart of accounts to comply with O. Reg. 401/22: Determination of Amounts under Subsection 27.2(2) of the Act and O. Reg. 402/22: Budget and Apportionment.	July September 2023	L. Molson
GIS	Critical Failure Information Technology Plan	July October 2023	L. Molson
Administration	Agricultural Committee – Renew commitment to the Committee, conduct 3 meetings in 2023.	December 2023 (Meeting held in June 2023)	J. Stephens
Administration	Migration of EPR data into Content Management System	December 2023	J. Stephens



Department: Environmental Planning and Regulations

SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY	2023 OPERATIONAL TASK	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	RESPONSIBLE FOR DELIVERABLE
Environmental Planning	Plan review of applications and pre-consultation meetings/site visits.	Ongoing	E. Downing
Environmental Planning	Review of Comprehensive Planning Documents (Official Plans, Comprehensive Zoning By-Laws)	Ongoing	E. Downing
Section 28 Regulation	Continue implementation of the Violations Strategy to resolve outstanding violations.	Ongoing	E. Downing
Section 28 Regulation	Review permit applications, conduct site visits, issue permits.	Ongoing	E. Downing
Technical Support	Acquisition of Technical Expertise Supporting Staff Review	April 2023	J. Stephens
Environmental Planning	Completion of Environmental Planning and Regulations Policy Manual Revisions	July December 2023	E. Downing
Environmental Planning	Completion of Environmental Planning and Regulations User Fee Review	September December 2023	E. Downing
Environmental Planning	Update Planning Service Agreements to reflect Bill 23 changes	December 2023	E. Downing



Department: Water Resources

SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY	2023 OPERATIONAL TASK	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	RESPONSIBLE FOR DELIVERABLE
Water Resources Committee	Conduct meetings to discuss matters requiring direction.	As needed Meetings held in June, July 2023	E. MacLeod
Flood Forecasting and Warning	Flood and low water monitoring, forecasting, and communication.	Ongoing	E. MacLeod
Program Funding	Research and apply for program funding (where applicable)	Ongoing	E. MacLeod
Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure	Complete database of existing easements and identify additional easement requirements, if needed.	Ongoing	E. MacLeod
Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure	Apply for Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) funding (re: Durham Upper Dam, Meux Creek)	February 2023 Complete	E. MacLeod
Watershed Report Cards	Finalize and publicly release watershed report cards	March 2023 Complete	E. MacLeod
Working Capital Plan – Hydrometric Network	Complete draft plan outlining short and long term needs to sustain hydrometric network.	July 2023 Complete	E. MacLeod
Flood Forecasting and Warning	Launch “Flood Watch” program for public involvement, complete with information sessions for municipal partners.	April October 2023	E. MacLeod
Ice Management Plan	Continue development of Ice Management Plan for SVCA watershed.	December 2023	E. MacLeod
Water and Erosion Infrastructure	Inspections of remaining SVCA water and erosion control infrastructure	December 2023 Complete	E. MacLeod
Ontario Benthos Biomonitoring Network	Collection of benthic macroinvertebrates to assist in the characterization of surface water quality	December 2023	E. MacLeod



SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY	2023 OPERATIONAL TASK	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	RESPONSIBLE FOR DELIVERABLE
Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network	Monitoring of groundwater quality and quantity.	December 2023	E. MacLeod
Surface Water Quality Characterization	Monthly collection of water quality samples from Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network sites and SVCA sites.	December 2023	E. MacLeod
Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure	Complete draft 10-year capital working plan for SVCA water and erosion control structures that were inspected in 2022	December 2023	E. MacLeod



Department: Forestry and Lands

SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY	2023 OPERATIONAL TASK	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	RESPONSIBLE FOR DELIVERABLE
Forestry Committee	Conduct meetings to discuss matters requiring direction.	As needed	D. Lacey
Property and Parks Committee	Conduct meetings to discuss matters requiring direction.	As needed	D. Lacey
Forest Management	Carry out Forest Management Activities on SVCA and private properties including tree marking, tree inventories, harvest supervision, Managed Forest Tax Incentive Plans.	Ongoing	D. Lacey
Tree Planting	Plant trees on private properties.	Ongoing	D. Lacey
Fleet Management	Prepare Fleet Management Plan	May October 2023	D. Lacey
Lands Operations	Complete Approved Lands-Based Capital Projects for 2023	December 2023	D. Lacey
Lands Management	Complete ash hazard tree removal from Brucedale and Saugeen Bluffs campgrounds	December 2023	D. Lacey
Lands Management	Continue development of Conservation Areas Strategy and Conservation Lands Inventory (Due: December 31, 2024)	December 2023	D. Lacey

SAUGEEN VALLEY
 CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Finance Report

General Levy Programs

For YTD and month ended May 31, 2023, with the % Actual budgeted funds.

Table 1 – Consolidated statement of revenues compared to budgeted amounts.

Revenues	Approved Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD % Actual/Budget
Corporate Services	1,121,050	425,820	367,990	86.42%
Environmental Planning and Regulations	1,184,300	473,205	456,043	96.37%
Water Resources	681,600	283,896	284,967	100.38%
Forestry and Lands	463,900	163,965	165,296	100.81%
Total Revenues	3,450,850	1,346,886	1,274,296	94.61%

Table 2 – Consolidated statement of expenses compared to budgeted amounts.

Expenses	Approved Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD % Actual/Budget
Corporate Services	1,121,050	452,045	414,415	91.68%
Environmental Planning and Regulations	1,184,300	485,690	450,222	92.70%
Water Resources	681,600	259,270	219,343	84.60%
Forestry and Lands	463,900	164,850	122,997	74.61%
Total Expenses	3,450,850	1,361,855	1,206,977	88.63%

Non-General Levy Programs

For YTD and month ended May 31, 2023, with the % Actual budgeted funds.

Table 3 – Consolidated statement of revenues compared to budgeted amounts.

Revenues	Approved Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD % Actual/ Budget
Forestry and Lands	705,150	302,185	275,739	91.25%
Campgrounds	1,266,600	701,800	657,434	93.68%
Capital Projects	670,000	nil	nil	0.00%
Total Revenues	2,641,750	1,003,985	933,173	92.95%

Table 4 – Consolidated statement of expenses compared to budgeted amounts.

Expenses	Approved Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD % Actual/ Budget
Forestry and Lands	686,750	393,846	309,599	78.61%
Campgrounds	1,199,480	296,693	211,406	71.25%
Capital Projects	670,000	nil	52,360	0.00%
Total Expenses	2,556,230	690,539	573,365	83.03%

Report 7.3 – Programs

Corporate Services

Communications

Social media

Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority social media experienced significant growth attributed to two campaigns; the Ojibwe Bird Names series created in partnership with Indigenous Conservationist Chevaun Toulouse, and the Plant Me Instead, invasive species series (both of which are ongoing). Compared to the previous reporting period, (May through to July), followers on Facebook (FB) grew 39%, and Instagram (IG) 76.5%. There are a total of 10,327 followers across all platforms. Facebook page reach increased 40.8%, and post reach increased 33%, with posts reaching 186,000 users. Page impressions were up 59.7%. Instagram reach was up 341.3%. Paid reach was up 218%; \$25 on a water resources hiring ad saw 24,880 users in its reach.

Top posts on FB: Cedar Waxwing, Catbird, House Wren Ojibwe Bird Name posts.

Top posts on IG: Cedar Waxwing, Intro to Chevaun Toulouse, Swallow Ojibwe Bird Name.

Top Twitter posts: Snapping Turtle, Varney Pond, Saugeen River.

Google myBusiness

Since May 1st, 2023, 989 people found the SVCA business profile. 134 calls were made from the SVCA business profile.

Website

Since May 1st, 2023, 15,000 people visited the Saugeen Conservation website; an increase of 35.6% since the last report. 136,000 events were logged, a 21.2% increase. An event is an interaction or occurrence, such as loading a page, clicking a link, or completing a survey. Most Canadian site visitors were from Toronto, browsing on an iPhone. London, Port Elgin, Hanover, Kitchener, Montreal, Hamilton, Durham, and Mississauga followed. 504 site users were searching from the USA. Top searches were Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority, Saugeen Bluffs, Durham, camping, Reserve a Campsite, canoeing and kayaking, Brucedale, Allan Park, Sulphur Spring.

General overview

Cooperatively with Water Resources, efforts encompassed grant execution and communication assistance, content generation, support for the NWMO project, new signage, and editing the Annual Report.

For Forestry and Lands department, Communications staff continued to promote campgrounds through marketing for the properties and associated their events. Presentation board creation for horse camping, birding event, and fishing event. The MFTIP program was highlighted on social media.

For Environmental Planning and Regulations (EPR), letter review included pre-consult planning letter, resources information, landowner authorization, Coastal Zone PPT, new permit template and permit approval letter template.

Corporate Services responsibilities consisted of preparing presentations and communications, editing reports, preparing drafts of business cases, presentation boards, and social media management. Launched campaigns focusing on invasive species and another collaborative campaign with Indigenous Conservationist Chevaun Toulouse.

Conservation Education

A very busy spring this year, with an equally busy summer planned.

DEER Program (Discover Energized Environmental Resources)

The 25-year DEER Program partnership with Bruce Power has now been completed. This spring 50 programs were presented with over 75 classes (representing 1,500 students) participating. Programs ranged from wetland studies to invasive species to soil studies and much more; all hands-on, curriculum-based, and locally developed to ensure relevance to our watershed resident youth. Over the course of the 25 years of the program partnership, Saugeen Conservation has presented over 1,200 days of programming with over 57,000 students, teachers and parent chaperones participating in our DEER education program. A wonderful accomplishment made possible through the generous sponsorship and support of Bruce Power.

WREN Program (Watershed Resources Education Network)

The WREN Program is a user-pay program where classes and community youth groups can book hands-on, curriculum-based programs at a conservation area or another site of their choice. Egremont Community School, Holstein; Sacred Heart High School, Walkerton; Dawnview Public School, Hanover and Mildmay Carrick Public School are all participating in education programs in June. The June 2nd PD was a success as usual with participants learning about insects, hiking the trails, and reconnecting with nature at Sulphur Spring Conservation Area.

Summer WREN programming will include several outreach programs at Bruce County Museum, Fisherman's Cove Campgrounds, Walkerton Recreation and Kincardine Recreation.

Envirothon

Education staff from Saugeen Conservation worked with Stewardship Grey Bruce to host a competition for secondary schools sponsored by Forest Ontario. The Regional Envirothon Competition is open to teams of 5 students from all Grey Bruce secondary schools and took place at the Bluewater Outdoor Education Centre in Oliphant May 1st. The two winning teams then can go on to the Provincial competitions held virtually later in May. While only one team participated this year, we intend to build up interest in the program this fall.

Grey Bruce Children's Water Festival

The Grey Bruce Children's Water Festival took place at the Chesley Community Centre complex mid-May this year, returning to an in-person event. Over 1,500 grade 4 students, parents, and teachers from across Grey and Bruce Counties learned about the importance of clean water in our lives. Education staff from Saugeen Conservation have been involved with this program since its inception in 1999.

Wonders of the Wetland

Sponsorship from Enbridge (\$2,500) supported another successful Wonders of the Wetland program for 80 students from Mary Immaculate School, Chepstow, and St. Joseph's School, Port Elgin at Brucedale Conservation Area. The day included benthic macro-invertebrate studies, shoreline/wetland plant inventories, wildlife monitoring and a look at how plastics affect the natural world. Many thanks to our sponsor, Enbridge, Jo-Anne Harbinson (retired Water Resources Manager), Brittany Taylor, Water Quality Technician, Alyssa Bourassa, Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation, and Cheryl Skingley, Superintendent of Brucedale Conservation Area for making the day such a success. Enbridge staff shared that they would be pleased to continue to support the program in the future.

Youth Expo

The Youth EXPO has been presented in partnership with the Sydenham Sportsmen's Club, SVCA and Stewardship Grey Bruce annually since 2007. Registration is now full for this popular program designed to introduce youth to a variety of outdoor recreation pursuits. Youth aged 10 to 17 will be gathering at the Sydenham Sportsmen's Club near Owen Sound on June 10th to participate in bird watching, geocaching, target shooting, fishing archery and aquatic critter catching. A free BBQ will also be available for participants. The program is provided at no cost thanks to a wide variety of sponsors.

Wild Encounters Summer Nature Day Camp

Registration is now open for the many nature day camps being held at Sulphur Spring C.A. this summer with education staff. We are offering a one-day and a two-day camp for youth aged 5 to 8 this August. Registration for these camps is through the SVCA main office.

We are also offering our two final week-long camps this summer in partnership with the Town of Hanover. They will be held July 17 to 21 and August 21 to 25. The age range of these camps is 8 years old to 12 years old.

We are also looking into hosting a one or two-day camp for persons with disabilities this summer. Registration for that will be through our SVCA office.

All camps are designed to suit the ages and abilities of the participants, challenging and fun opportunities to learn about and gain respect for our natural environment while making new friends and learning new outdoor skills.

Meetings: Grey Bruce Children's Water Festival, Bruce Grey Forest Festival, Saugeen Nature, Envirothon Planning Meeting, Youth Expo meeting.

Forestry and Lands

Staff successfully completed another tree planting season by the first week in June. The season started out very wet and ended incredibly dry. Tree planting is carried out with multiple departments working together. Forestry and Lands would like to thank Corporate Services, Environmental Planning and Regulations, and Water Resources staff for all their assistance and understanding during this very hectic season.

Managed forest plans are being written and submitted for many landowners. Tree marking is being completed within SVCA forests.

In early June, Allan Park CA was host to the 2nd Annual Brad Sprague Fishing Derby. This derby was held on our grounds with minimal assistance from staff. As requested by the organizers, SVCA had an interactive water quality/ invertebrate display. This event appeared to be a very successful family activity.

Our campgrounds are running smoothly. However, we lost our Saugeen Bluffs superintendent in late May after serving in that position for four years. We are pleased to announce that Jim Leask has been promoted to Superintendent of Saugeen Bluffs and Shannon Hagen has been promoted to Assistant Superintendent of Saugeen Bluffs. We are still experiencing staff shortages. Booking numbers are down slightly from previous years.

Sulphur Spring CA was one of the locations for the Walk for Alzheimer's; this walk brought many visitors to the park to raise funds and walk the Sulphur Spring trail.

Allan Park CA hosted two Bluewater District School Board Mountain Bike race days.

Schmidt Lake hosted another tour run by the Cargill Greenock Swamp Promotional Association.

Staff are continuing to maintain trails, properties, and infrastructure.

Water Resources

SVCA Flood and Erosion Control Project Activity

Paisley Dyke Improvements

SVCA staff are awaiting updated cost estimates from Looby Construction following recommendations from the Paisley dyke stability assessment. Once received, these estimates will be reviewed with the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie to determine if the project will move forward this year.

Meux Creek Gabion Wall Repairs

At the time of writing, SVCA staff have been attempting to contact all affected landowners to obtain consent to access their property to complete the gabion wall repairs. Should all five consent agreements be signed, the project will be awarded to a local contractor. All funding has been acquired through the Municipality of West Grey and the Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) program.

Federal Hazard and Identification Mapping Program (FHIMP)

All three flood hazard mapping projects have been awarded and are underway. SVCA staff are working with lead contacts at each municipality to advance these projects and provide notice to the public. Surveying has been completed in the Municipality of West Grey for the Durham Creek flood hazard mapping project. The remaining two surveys will be completed shortly. A public meeting for each project is anticipated in August 2023.

Flood Forecasting and Warning (FFW)

We are pleased to announce that Richard Southcote has accepted the contract position of Water Resources Data Technician at SVCA. Richard brings over 30 years of water resources quality control and quality assurance knowledge. His position, made possible by grant funding, will be used to make our water resources data publicly available on our website and will aid future discussions about climate change.

SVCA staff are working diligently to complete Spring/Summer maintenance on all stream gauge and weather stations. Staff are also preparing a working capital plan to identify the short and long-term needs of SVCA's hydrometric network. Site visits have been completed at all stations and cost estimates obtained through our suppliers to inform this capital plan.

SVCA staff are pleased to announce that we have received funding from Bruce Power and NWMO for repairs to two stream gauge stations. Bruce Power is supporting repairs to SVCA's Paisley Saugeen stream gauge station. This station is critical to our flood forecasting and warning program but has not been operational since a lightning strike in April 2023. This funding will allow staff to replace the equipment, undertake much-needed repairs to the exterior hut, and develop a new rating curve. NWMO funding will be used to replace equipment at the SVCA's Beatty Saugeen stream gauge station which has not been operational since September 2022.

Water Quality (WQ)

Surface Water Sampling

SVCA staff are preparing for July's surface water quality sampling. Samples are collected from a total of 31 sites across the watershed (2 – Healthy Lake Huron, 15 – SVCA, 14 – PWQMN), between the months of April and November.

Groundwater Monitoring

SVCA staff are preparing for the summer groundwater maintenance program, to be completed in July/August, which involves downloading level logger data and completing general well maintenance.

Surface Water Quality Annual Report

SVCA staff are in the final stages of editing the surface water quality annual report. It is anticipated that this report will be released to the public and available on SVCA's website by the end of July 2023.

Biomonitoring

Benthic macroinvertebrate samples were collected in May 2023 at 10 sites across the watershed. These samples will be analyzed in Winter 2023 following completion of the field sampling season.

NWMO Environmental Baseline Monitoring Program

SVCA staff have successfully submitted the draft, Year 1 Sampling Report for review. Modifications are currently being made to the report following an initial round of comments.

Staff are preparing for Year 2 Summer field sampling in August 2023.

Environmental Planning & Regulations (EPR)

Department News

'Complete Permit Application Checklist' has been formulated and is being utilized by staff. An external complete permit application checklist will follow.

Interest group consultation for the Policies Manual document 5-year review was circulated and comments received. Staff have been drafting a revised manual, to accommodate Bill 23, clarify issue areas known by staff, and incorporate comments received so far for eventual Board review of that

draft. News of the imminent release of new Conservation Authorities Regulation has paused Regulations chapter work on this document.

EPR presentation to Coastal Zone Canada Conference 2023.

EPR staff attended the Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation Conference 2023.

An EPR staff completed Ontario Wetland Evaluation System Training

EPR staff complete 'Threat Ready' training.

EPR staff attended Minto Municipal office to meet on Building approval process.

EPR staff met with Lake Rosalind Cottager Association directors to discuss lakebed approvals.

EPR Regulations staff received Section 28 Enforcement Training regarding anticipated changes to regulation.

EPR staff attended Western CAs Regulation Meeting.

Emergent Issues

Bill 23: Regulatory implementation in effect January 1, 2023, passed December 28, 2022, has required the adjustment of SVCA commenting on Planning Act applications and several other Acts. CAs can no longer provide Natural Heritage policy recommendations as of January 1, 2023. SVCA staff continue to discuss how SVCA can help during this transition period to ensure requirements under the *Planning Act* are met by member municipalities. Municipal staff have requested SVCA assistance, for the benefit of applicants, with regards to their new roles in Natural Heritage review. SVCA staff have provided resources and offered to assist in their file review process. Files received up to January 1, 2023, will receive SVCA comment, but no additional files circulated after January 1 will receive SVCA natural heritage comment. EPR Staff have been requested to assist in training for upper and lower tier municipal staff regarding natural heritage.

Staff reviewed the Planning Service Agreements with Grey County and surrounding CA staff late in August 2021. This process was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic Upper Tier Planning staff and SVCA staff convened meetings in January 2022 to finalize the template agreement that all lower tier municipalities might also use. This would allow for consistent Planning Service agreements across multiple municipal and CA jurisdictions. The 2020 Provincial Policy Statement has amended some definitions and policies referred to in the proposed agreement, so staff have been working to update the draft. All agreements will need to be reviewed with the new parameters. Municipal staff will receive an update that agreements need to be revised as current agreements will expire.



Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority Minutes – Executive Committee

Date: Thursday April 6, 2023, 9:00 a.m.
Location: Electronic via Zoom
Chair: Barbara Dobreen
Members present: Tom Hutchinson, Paul Allen, Steve McCabe, Sue Paterson
Staff: Jennifer Stephens, Janice Hagan

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

1. Adoption of Agenda

Motion #EC23-09

Moved by Steve McCabe

Seconded by Tom Hutchinson

THAT the SVCA Executive Committee adopt the agenda for the meeting, April 6, 2023, as circulated.

Carried

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

No persons declared a pecuniary interest relative to any item on the agenda.

3. Approval of Minutes

- a. Approval of the Executive Committee meeting Minutes –March 3, 2023

Motion #EC23-10

Moved by Paul Allen

Seconded by Tom Hutchinson

THAT the Executive Committee approve the minutes of the meeting March 3, 2023, as circulated.

Carried

4. New Business

- a. General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer Performance Evaluation

The Behavioural Competencies Evaluation table was circulated and discussed. The committee recommended several changes to the assessment criteria and evaluation by either senior staff or the Board. The evaluation forms will be circulated to staff and the Board at the beginning of June. Chair Dobreen will facilitate discussions at the July Executive Committee and Authority meetings which will include the GM/S-T self-evaluation. Further discussion regarding the evaluation form and communication timeline will take place at the May 4th Executive Committee meeting.

b. Update on Environmental Planning and Regulations Department Initiatives

Jennifer Stephens discussed several ongoing initiatives that will improve efficiency within the EPR department. Letter templates have been updated to allow for better understanding and more user-friendly communication. The Content Management System to be acquired from Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority will move forward in May with the goal of complete utilization by the end of 2023. SVCA staff have applied for grant funding for this database; however, results of the application will not be known early summer. Jennifer told the Committee that staff have been accessing technical expertise to assist with reviewing technical reports. A list of prequalified consultants is currently being compiled which will assist staff with evaluations in a timely manner. It is planned to circulate an EOI for the purposes of building the list. The Committee directed staff to bring a report to the Board.

5. Closed Session – to discuss matters related to an identifiable individual; potential litigation affecting the Authority; and instruction to be applied to negotiations being carried out on behalf of the Authority.

Motion #EC23-11

Moved by Sue Paterson

Seconded by Steve McCabe

THAT the Executive Committee move to Closed Session, In Camera, to discuss matters relating to an identifiable individual; potential litigation effecting the Authority and instruction to be applied to negotiations to be carried on behalf of the Authority; and

FURTHER THAT Jennifer Stephens, Laura Molson as required, and Janice Hagan remain in the meeting.

Carried

Motion #EC23-16

Moved by Sue Paterson

Seconded by Paul Allen

THAT the Executive Committee adjourn from Closed Session, In Camera and rise and report.

Carried

Chair Dobreen reported that there was a Closed session of the Executive Committee to discuss matters relating to an identifiable individual; potential litigation effecting the Authority and instruction to be applied to negotiations to be carried on behalf of the Authority and that staff were given direction.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m. by motion from Tom Hutchinson and Paul Allen.

Barbara Dobreen
Chair

Janice Hagan
Recording Secretary



Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority

Minutes – Executive Committee

Date: Thursday May 4, 2023, 9:00 a.m.
Location: Electronic via Zoom
Chair: Barbara Dobreen
Members present: Tom Hutchinson, Paul Allen, Steve McCabe, Sue Paterson
Staff present: Jennifer Stephens, Janice Hagan

Chair Dobreen called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

1.0 Adoption of Agenda

Motion #EC23-16

Moved by Tom Hutchinson

Seconded by Steve McCabe

THAT the SVCA Executive Committee adopt the agenda for the meeting, May 4, 2023, as circulated.

Carried

2.0 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest relative to any item on the agenda.

3.0 Adoption of Minutes

Adoption of the Executive Committee meeting Minutes – April 6, 2023

Motion #EC23-17

Moved by Paul Allen

Seconded by Sue Paterson

THAT the Executive Committee adopt the minutes of the meeting April 6, 2023, as circulated.

Carried

4.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes

4.1 General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer Performance Evaluation

The updated Behavioural Competencies Evaluation table was re-circulated and examined. After discussion the following motion carried:

Motion #EC23-18

Moved by Steve McCabe

Seconded by Sue Paterson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Executive Committee adopt the performance review form(s) for the 2023 General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer review; and

FURTHER THAT the Chair be directed to circulate them to the Board and the direct reports of the GM/S-T respectively for completion and submission back to the Chair for tabulation and review at the July 2023 Executive Committee meeting.

Carried

5.0 New Business

5.1 Programs and Services

Based on Regulation 687/21 (Transition Plans and Agreements for Programs and Services under Section 21.1.2 of the Act), there are three categories of programs and services which can be offered by conservation authorities. To engage in municipal (Category 2) and non-mandatory (Category 3) programs and services, Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority will be required to enter into agreements with benefiting or participating municipalities. Although staff continue to investigate ownership of some water and erosion control infrastructure, it is possible that the Authority will need to enter into Category 2 Agreements with some municipalities to continue to maintain these water and erosion control infrastructure if ownership proves to be municipal. Costs for this maintenance would be borne by the benefiting municipality. To continue non-mandatory programs and services, the Authority will be required to enter into cost-apportioning agreements with all participating municipalities. The Committee discussed municipal buy-in and funding of non-mandatory programs and services. The Committee moved to continue with these non-mandatory programs and services, it was necessary for all SVCA watershed municipalities to unanimously be in favour of continued program implementation and funding.

Motion #EC23-19

Moved by Tom Hutchinson

Seconded by Sue Paterson

THAT the Executive Committee recommends to the Board of Directors that Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority continues to offer Category 3 non-mandatory programs and services related to public awareness and communications, water quality monitoring and stewardship to its watershed municipalities; and

FURTHER THAT all watershed municipalities participate in order for all or any of the Category 3 non-mandatory programs and services to continue.

Carried

6.0 Closed Session – To discuss matters related to litigation, or potential litigation, affecting the Authority.

Motion #EC23-20

Moved by Steve McCabe

Seconded by Paul Allen

THAT the Executive Committee move to Closed Session, In Camera, to discuss matters related to litigation, or potential litigation, affecting the Authority; and

FURTHER THAT Jennifer Stephens, and Janice Hagan remain in the meeting.

Carried

Motion #EC23-24

Moved by Tom Hutchinson

Seconded by Sue Paterson

THAT the Executive Committee adjourn from Closed Session, In Camera and rise and report.

Carried

Chair Dobreen reported that there was a Closed session of the Executive Committee to discuss matters relating to potential litigation affecting the Authority and that staff were given direction.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m. by motion from Paul Allen and Sue Paterson.

Barbara Dobreen
Chair

Janice Hagan
Recording Secretary



Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority

Minutes – Water Resources Committee

Date: Thursday May 4, 2023, 1:00 p.m.
Location: Formosa Administration Office
Chair: Tom Hutchinson
Members present: Greg McLean, Dave Myette, Bill Stewart, Barbara Dobreen
Staff present: Jennifer Stephens, Elise MacLeod, Janice Hagan

Jennifer Stephens called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

1. Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair

Motion #WR23-01

Moved by Dave Myette

Seconded by Bill Stewart

THAT Tom Hutchinson be appointed Chair of the Water Resources Committee for 2023.

Carried

Motion #WR23-02

Moved by Dave Myette

Seconded by Bill Stewart

THAT Greg McLean be appointed Vice-Chair of the Water Resources Committee for 2023.

Carried

2. Adoption of Agenda

Motion #WR23-03

Moved by Greg McLean

Seconded by Bill Stewart

THAT the agenda for the Water Resources Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried

3. Declaration of pecuniary interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest relative to any item on the agenda.

4. Adoption of Minutes – July 6, 2022

Motion #WR23-04

Moved by Bill Stewart

Seconded by Greg McLean

THAT the minutes of the Water Resources Committee meeting held on July 6, 2022, be adopted as presented.

Carried

5. New Business

5.1. Durham Upper Dam Environmental Assessment - Elise MacLeod

The Durham Upper Dam (DUD) assessment completed by D.M. Wills Associates in 2022 recommended full rehabilitation and upgrades to be completed within five (5) years. Staff have applied for funding from the Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) program which has been supported by motion of the West Grey Council up to \$30,000. Staff recommended to the Committee that the Class EA assessment be completed over three (3) phases and that the Municipality of West Grey contribute the full amount (est. \$100,000) as the benefiting municipality.

Motion #WR23-05

Moved by Dave Myette

Seconded by Greg McLean

THAT the Water Resources Committee recommend to the Board of Directors that staff be authorized to proceed with Phase 1 of an Environmental Assessment for the Durham Upper Dam, pending WECI funding; and

FURTHER THAT it be recommended that the Municipality of West Grey be the benefiting municipality, contributing 100% of the project costs not covered by grant funding.

Carried

5.2. Walkerton Hydro Dam

Elise MacLeod gave a brief history of the Walkerton Hydro Dam and the surrounding property which is owned by SVCA. A potential investor has indicated interest in evaluating the site for power generation. It was noted that the property is zoned as hazard land. Staff recommend that discussions with the investor cease due to potential liability.

Motion #WR23-06

Moved by Greg McLean

Seconded by Bill Stewart

THAT the Water Resources Committee recommends to the Board of Directors that staff discontinue discussions with a potential investor regarding rehabilitation of the Walkerton Hydro Dam.

Carried

6. Closed Session

Motion #WR23-07

Moved by Greg McLean
Seconded by Bill Stewart

THAT the Water Resources Committee move to Closed Session, In Camera, to discuss matters subject to potential litigation affecting the Authority and advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege; and

FURTHER THAT Jennifer Stephens, Elise MacLeod, and Janice Hagan remain in the meeting.

Carried

Motion #WR23-10

Moved by Dave Myette
Seconded by Greg MacLean

THAT the Water Resources Committee adjourn from Closed Session and rise and report.

Carried

Chair Hutchinson reported that there were two items discussed in Closed Session and that staff were given direction regarding a legal matter. The repair of the Neustadt Flood Control Works - Meux Creek - East Riverbank Gabion Baskets was also discussed, and the following motion carried in open session:

Motion #WR23-11

Moved by Bill Stewart
Seconded by Greg MacLean

THAT the Water Resources Committee recommend to the Board of Directors that the Repair of the East Riverbank Gabion Baskets be awarded to VanDriel Excavating Inc., for \$435,326.00 plus HST, pending West Grey Council approval, WECl funding, permits from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and SVCA, landowner consent; and

THAT the Water Resources Committee recommend to the Board of Directors that the Municipality of West Grey be deemed the benefitting Municipality, responsible for 100% of the construction costs, at \$435,326.00 plus HST, less WECl funding; and

THAT the Water Resources Committee recommend to the Board of Directors that the cost of engineering be split 50:50 between SVCA and the Municipality of West Grey for Phase 2 of the project; and

FURTHER THAT the Water Resources Committee recommend to the Board of Directors that staff engage legal counsel for landowner consent to access and complete the gabion basket repairs, across all five (5) affected properties.

Carried

Tom Hutchinson left the meeting at 2:42 p.m. and Vice Chair Greg MacLean assumed the

Water Resources Committee – May 4, 2023

Chair position.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m. on motion of Barbara Dobreen and Dave Myette.

Tom Hutchinson
Chair

Janice Hagan
Executive Assistant / Recording Secretary



Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority

Minutes – Water Resources Committee

Date: Monday June 5, 2023, 9:00 a.m.
Location: Formosa Administration Office
Chair: Tom Hutchinson
Members present: Barbara Dobreen, Dave Myette, Bill Stewart (remote)
Absent: Greg McLean
Staff present: Jennifer Stephens, Elise MacLeod, Janice Hagan

Tom Hutchinson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

1. Adoption of Agenda

Motion #WR23-12

Moved by Dave Myette

Seconded by Bill Stewart

THAT the agenda for the Water Resources Committee meeting, June 5, 2023, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest relative to any item on the agenda.

3. Adoption of Minutes – May 4, 2023

Motion #WR23-13

Moved by Bill Stewart

Seconded by Dave Myette

THAT the minutes of the Water Resources Committee meeting held on May 4, 2023, be adopted as presented.

Carried

4. New Business – None at this time.

5. Closed Session

Motion #WR23-14

Moved by Dave Myette

Seconded by Bill Stewart

THAT the Water Resources Committee move into Closed Session, In Camera to discuss matters subject to potential litigation affecting the Authority and advice that is subject to

solicitor-client privilege; and

FURTHER THAT Jennifer Stephens, Elise MacLeod, and Janice Hagan remain in the meeting.

Carried

Motion #WR23-18

Moved by Dave Myette

Seconded by Barbara Dobreen

THAT the Water Resources Committee adjourn from Closed Session and rise and report.

Carried

Chair Hutchinson reported that there was only discussion in the Closed Session pertaining to the potential litigation affecting the Authority and that there was no direction given to staff.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.m. on the motion of Dave Myette and Bill Stewart.

Tom Hutchinson
Chair

Janice Hagan
Executive Assistant / Recording Secretary

Report 6.5 – News Articles for Members’ Information

[Minor variance means Lake Huron waterfront dream home can be built](https://www.shorelinebeacon.com/news/local-news/minor-variance-means-lake-huron-waterfront-dream-home-can-be-built)

(<https://www.shorelinebeacon.com/news/local-news/minor-variance-means-lake-huron-waterfront-dream-home-can-be-built>)

The Shoreline Beacon, May 16, 2023

[Local swimming hole closed down](https://www.iheartradio.ca/bounce/grey-bruce/news/local-swimming-hole-closed-down-1.19698820) (<https://www.iheartradio.ca/bounce/grey-bruce/news/local-swimming-hole-closed-down-1.19698820>)

Iheartradio.ca, May 24, 2023

[Draft strategic plan presented to SVCA board of directors](https://midwesternnewspapers.com/draft-strategic-plan-presented-to-svca-board-of-directors)

(<https://midwesternnewspapers.com/draft-strategic-plan-presented-to-svca-board-of-directors>)

Midwestern Newspapers Corp., May 24, 2023

[Discussion continues on what programs SVCA will be offering in the future](https://midwesternnewspapers.com/discussion-continues-on-what-programs-svca-will-be-offering-in-the-future)

(<https://midwesternnewspapers.com/discussion-continues-on-what-programs-svca-will-be-offering-in-the-future>)

Midwesternnewspapers.com, May 24, 2023

[Durham Street Bridge replacement plans have business community concerned](https://ca.style.yahoo.com/durham-street-bridge-replacement-plans-130008156.html)

(<https://ca.style.yahoo.com/durham-street-bridge-replacement-plans-130008156.html>)

Yahoo!Life, June 16, 2023

[South Grey News | Armstrong Creek Trail](https://www.southgreynews.ca/local-news/armstrong-creek-trail) (<https://www.southgreynews.ca/local-news/armstrong-creek-trail>)

SouthGrey.ca, June 21, 2023

[West Grey To Consider Sponsoring Playground Project In Durham | Bayshore Broadcasting News Centre](https://www.bayshorebroadcasting.ca/2023/07/04/west-grey-to-consider-sponsoring-playground-project-in-durham/) (<https://www.bayshorebroadcasting.ca/2023/07/04/west-grey-to-consider-sponsoring-playground-project-in-durham/>)

Bayshore Broadcasting, July 4, 2023

[Conservation Authority to begin ash tree removal](https://windsornewstoday.ca/news/2023/07/13/conservation-authority-to-begin-ash-tree-removal)

(<https://windsornewstoday.ca/news/2023/07/13/conservation-authority-to-begin-ash-tree-removal>) CK NewsToday.ca, July 13, 2023

[SVCA reports elevated water levels with more rain predicted](https://saugeentimes.com/svca-reports-elevated-water-levels-with-more-rain-predicted/) (https://saugeentimes.com/svca-reports-elevated-water-levels-with-more-rain-predicted/)

Saugeen Times, July 15, 2023



GREY BRUCE CHILDREN'S WATER FESTIVAL

A Division of the Grey Bruce Children's Water Education Council

June 1, 2023

Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority
via email:
N.Griffin@svca.on.ca

Dear Nancy,

Please extend our gratitude to your organization for their support of the Grey Bruce Children's Water Festival for our 2023 event by providing help with numerous volunteers during the event and for providing the space and man power to help winterize the activities afterwards.

Our mission is to cultivate in every child and adult who participates in the festival an understanding of and appreciation for the water they use and the environment in which they live. With your help we were able to bring our message over 2100 participants and volunteers, all free of charge!

Our event wouldn't be successful without the support of our community partners.
Thank you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joyce Nicoll'.

Joyce Nicoll
Sponsorship and Volunteer Coordinator
Grey Bruce Children's Water Festival

Office of the Mayor

9 June 2023

VIA EMAIL

Hon. François-Philippe Champagne PC MP
Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development
Via email: ministerofisi-ministredeisi@ised-isde.gc.ca

Hon. Marie-Claude Bibeau PC MP
Minister of Agriculture
Via email: Marie-Claude.Bibeau@parl.gc.ca

Dear Ministers:

On behalf of the Council of the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, we are writing to you pursuant to the enclosed motion to endorse the right-to-repair movement and to call on your government to expedite the promised consultations to enshrine this principle in consumer-protection law, with specific consultations and measures related to supporting the agricultural sector undertaken.

Right to Repair is a simple environmental and consumer protection measure: it ensures consumers are able to reasonably access repairs to electronic and other devices at a fair price, rather than creating a monopoly through technology companies only being able to repair their own products. This measure will also help reduce waste by combatting planned obsolescence, where companies make products that are only intended to last for a period of some years, and are not really repairable.

Further, farmers and growers are intimately familiar with the particular nuances of this issue when it comes to increasingly high-tech agricultural equipment. As the “soup and salad bowl of Canada”, Bradford West Gwillimbury is home to many farmers and growers, so we know firsthand how important an issue these consultations will be.

Our Council has shown in recent years that we are at the forefront of advocating for important environmental protections, including the Freshwater Action Fund, and we are grateful to our new Green Initiatives Committee for recommending this current piece of advocacy to protect the environment and consumers.

A copy of the motion is enclosed. We would be happy to meet with you or your representatives to discuss this further.

Sincerely yours,



James Leduc
Mayor

CC: John Barlow, MP Foothills
Rick Perkins, MP South Shore—St. Margarets
Alistair MacGregor, MP Cowichan—Malahat—Langford
Rachel Blaney, MP North Island—Powell River
Scot Davidson, MP York—Simcoe
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Ontario's Municipal Councils
Ontario's Conservation Authorities

At its Regular meeting of Council held on Tuesday, June 6, 2023, the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury Council approved the following resolution:

Resolution: 2023-199

Moved: Councillor Verkaik

Seconded: Councillor Harper

Whereas the “right-to-repair” movement seeks to ensure consumers of electronic products, including mobile phones and computers, as well as agricultural equipment, are able to make routine fixes to damaged products without having to rely on the manufacturer and to affordably make such repairs; and

Whereas this movement and efforts against “planned obsolescence” seeks to ensure affordability for consumers and to protect our environment by reducing electronic waste; and

Whereas the agricultural sector has unique needs related to specialized electronic farm equipment and the ability to make repairs in a timely and affordable manner, especially during the growing season; and

Further to a commitment in the 2023 federal budget that “the government will work to implement a right to repair, with the aim of introducing a targeted framework for home appliances and electronics in 2024. The government will launch consultations this summer, including on the right to repair and the interoperability of farming equipment, and work closely with provinces and territories to advance the implementation of a right to repair” (p. 38); and

Be it therefore resolved that the committee recommend Council endorse the right-to-repair movement through a letter from the Mayor and Green Initiatives Committee Chair to call on the federal government to expedite the promised consultations to enshrine this principle in consumer-protection law, with specific consultations and measures related to supporting the agricultural sector undertaken; and

That a copy of this resolution and letter be shared with the Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development; the Minister of Agriculture and their critics; and the Member of Parliament for York—Simcoe; and to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and Ontario’s Municipal Councils, with a request for their endorsement of same.

Result: CARRIED.

The Corporation of the Municipality of Brockton - Council Meeting

Agenda Number: 8.14.
Number: 23-15-17
Title: SVCA Category Three Services Agreement
Date: Tuesday, July 11, 2023

Moved By: Mitch Clark
Seconded By: Tim Elphick

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number CLK2023-14 – SVCA Category Three Services Agreement, prepared by Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk) for information purposes;

And further that Council authorize pursuing the Category 3 Cost Apportioning Agreement, and further provide the following direction to staff regarding comments on the agreement and Category 3 programs and services: no further comments to offer.

Carried

Original Signed By
Mayor - Chris Peabody

Staff Report 7.1

Report To: Chair and Directors, Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority

From: Ashley Richards, Communications Coordinator, Corporate Services

Date: July 20th, 2023

Subject: Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority Programs and Services

Purpose: To provide Saugeen Conservation's Board of Directors with an update related to the Category 3 Cost Apportioning Agreements, to seek approval for an extension to the January 1st, 2024 deadline, and to seek direction from the Board regarding negotiation of the agreements.

Recommendation

THAT Saugeen Conservation Valley Conservation Authority Board of Directors direct staff to commence negotiations with its watershed municipal councils pertaining to the Category 3 Cost Apportioning Agreements;

THAT the Board of Directors grant staff the authority to request an extension from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to the January 1, 2024, deadline; and

FURTHER THAT the Board of Directors directs staff to bring back a Stewardship Business Case to the October 19th, 2023 meeting, along with an estimated budget.

Background

This report aims to provide the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA) Board of Directors with an update on the progress of implementing the Category 3 Programs and Services Agreement as necessitated by the amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act in 2017, 2019, and 2020. It also seeks the Board's support in reaching out to SVCA member municipal councils for further negotiation of the agreements.

The amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act* over the past years aimed at enhancing governance, oversight, transparency, and accountability among conservation authorities. The Act mandates conservation authorities to:

- Develop and submit a Transition Plan by December 31, 2021
- Complete an Inventory of Programs and Services by February 28, 2022
- Enter into Municipal Agreements by January 1, 2024

Analysis

At the May 4th, 2023 meeting, the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA) Board of Directors passed a motion with multiple directives. The motion confirmed SVCA's commitment

to offering Category 3 non-mandatory programs and services related to public awareness, communication, water quality monitoring, and stewardship to its watershed municipalities. The continuity of these services is conditional upon the participation of all watershed municipalities.

The Board also instructed staff to prepare a business case specifically for Category 3 non-mandatory programs and services. In addition, staff were tasked to prepare a Category 3 cost-apportioning agreement, aiming to garner municipal support for the continued funding of non-mandatory programs and services.

The Board further directed staff to engage in discussions with municipal staff regarding the draft Category 3 Agreements. Lastly, it was decided that staff would bring back the Agreement for negotiation with municipalities at the subsequent July 20th meeting.

Staff engaged in communication with municipal CAOs on June 29th, 2023, centered primarily on water quality monitoring and related public awareness/communications services. At this juncture, the stewardship component was not incorporated into the draft agreements and, additionally, no business case was disseminated pertaining to the aforementioned non-mandatory program.

A crucial point of understanding is the distinct nature of water quality monitoring and stewardship programs. The water quality monitoring initiative is a key service that operates on the premise of continuous data acquisition; interruption of this program would undermine its inherent value and immediately impact the return on investment made by Saugeen watershed municipalities. Conversely, the stewardship program is not subject to the same continuity requirements. It retains the potential for reactivation at any time, with the caveat that program modifications will be necessary for successful implementation.

The intricacies of the stewardship program were identified when staff delved into the business case assessment. As such, additional time is needed to prepare and circulate a detailed business case for a successful program in the future. Stewardship programming at SVCA could potentially move forward at any time, contingent on resource availability and board direction.

Given the above considerations, staff propose to the Board of Directors that they be instructed to present a comprehensive business case for the stewardship program at the board meeting on October 19th, 2023.

Feedback from CAOs at the time of this report is minimal, but positive. The Municipality of Brockton has provided SVCA with a motion authorizing their staff to pursue the Category 3 Cost Apportioning Agreement. This motion is included in correspondence.

Next Steps

Staff propose to immediately pursue the following:

Follow up: A follow-up communication will be initiated with the CAOs who have not yet responded to ensure they have received the draft agreements and understand the provided information. This communication will also solicit their feedback, concerns, or questions, if any.

Facilitate understanding: Where necessary, staff will offer to meet with the CAOs and/or their respective teams to explain the details of the proposed programs and services, the reasons behind cost apportionment, and the benefits for the community.

Request for deadline extension: Recognizing the complexity of the negotiations and the challenges presented by the existing timeline, staff will prepare a request for an extension to the January 1, 2024 deadline for the negotiation of the agreements. This provision will allow the authority to adequately address any unforeseen circumstances or challenges that might arise in the negotiation process. The request must be submitted to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) no later than October 1, 2023. This action will ensure there is ample time to secure the most beneficial agreements for all parties involved.

In parallel with the immediate actions, it is proposed to:

Engage municipal councils: Subject to the Board's approval, staff will start reaching out to the member municipal councils to discuss the draft agreements. This engagement will be aimed at clarifying any points of concern, answering queries, and facilitating the decision-making process.

Negotiate agreements: After initial discussions with the councils, negotiations on the agreements will commence. These negotiations will accommodate the understanding that some councils might express a desire for minor adjustments to the agreement, provided that these modifications do not alter the fundamental intent of the agreement.

Finalize agreements: After negotiation, the agreements will be revised as per the mutual consensus of SVCA and the participating municipalities. The finalized agreements will then be presented to the municipal councils for approval through a resolution, as required by the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

This proposed plan aims to ensure the smooth progression of the Category 3 Programs and Services Agreement. It also ensures compliance with the legislative mandates while working towards the beneficial goal of conserving, restoring, developing, and managing natural resources in our region.

Financial Implications

It is estimated that to continue to offer Category 3 non-mandatory programs and services related to public awareness and communication, and water quality monitoring will cost \$126,150 based on the 2023 budget. These will not be additional funds to watershed municipalities, but rather will be collected via cost apportioning agreements instead of general levy. Costs related to Stewardship programming will be determined in the upcoming business case.

Prepared by:

[Original signed by:]

Ashley Richards, Communications Coordinator

Approved by:

[Original signed by:]

Erik Downing, Acting General Manager / Secretary-Treasurer

PREAMBLE

**Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority – Municipal Cost Apportionment
Agreement for Category 3 Programs and Services**

Background:

Under Section 20(1) of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, the objects of an authority are to provide, in the area over which it has jurisdiction:

1. Mandatory programs and services required under section 21.1 of the Act.
Note: These programs and services do not require agreements.
2. Any municipal programs and services that may be provided under section 21.1.1.
Note: Funding for these programs and services is defined in existing agreements for these programs and services.
3. Any other programs and services that may be provided under section 21.1.2.
Note: These programs and services require cost apportioning agreements with participating municipalities where financing (*i.e.*, cost apportionment) is required by a participating municipality.

Through subsection 21.1.2 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, an authority may provide, within its area of jurisdiction, any other programs and services that it determines are advisable to further the purposes of the *Conservation Authorities Act*. These programs are known as “Category 3” or “Other Programs and Services”.

In general, conservation authorities and municipalities can both benefit from the coordination of program and service initiatives as appropriate.

Agreement Requirements:

Conservation Authorities Act Requirements of Agreements:

1. The Agreement is to be made available to the public on the Conservation Authority (CA) website or other means deemed advisable by the Conservation Authority.
2. The Agreement shall be subject to periodic review at intervals stipulated within the Agreement, provided that such intervals shall not exceed a five (5) year duration.

3. The Agreement will have clear termination dates.
4. The Agreement shall incorporate provisions for early termination by any party thereto, encompassing:
 - i. The methodology through which a party is to provide notice of early termination to the other party or parties; and
 - ii. A stipulation that mandates the dissemination of notice for early termination to be executed not less than thirty (30) days in advance of the early termination date, or such longer duration as may be specified within the Agreement.
5. The Agreement shall be subject to a review conducted by the parties thereto, which shall take place no later than six (6) months prior to the termination date, or within such extended timeframe as may be specified within the Agreement.
6. Programs and services will be provided in accordance with the terms and conditions in the Agreement.
7. The Agreement must provide for the participating municipality to pay the capital and operating expenses apportioned to them under the Agreement.
8. The Agreement must include provisions allowing the conservation authority to charge fees for any program or service for which a fee is proposed or may be proposed to be charged.
9. The Agreement will include requirements for dispute resolution.
10. The Agreement must be approved by a resolution of the participating municipal council.
11. The Province retains the right to prescribe standards and requirements for the provision of other programs and services. Should the Province enact regulations regarding the provision of services, the regulation would prevail in the event of conflict between the terms and conditions set out in the municipal Agreement.

Other:

Posting the Agreement will be consistent with the requirements of the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Cost Apportioning Agreement

(hereafter, "Agreement")

THIS AGREEMENT is made on the _____ day of _____, 2023 (the "**Effective Date**").

BETWEEN:

THE TOWN/MUNICIPALITY/TOWNSHIP OF ...

(hereinafter, "Participating Municipality")

AND:

SAUGEEN VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

(hereinafter, "SVCA")

WHEREAS SVCA is a conservation authority established under the *Conservation Authorities Act* (the "Act") and is governed by its participating municipalities in accordance with the Act,

AND WHEREAS the Participating Municipality is a lower-tier municipality, located wholly or partly within the area under the jurisdiction of SVCA,

AND WHEREAS under the Act, Category 3 programs and services deemed advisable by the SVCA Board of Directors may be provided with municipal funding subject to a memorandum of understanding ("MOU") or such other agreement in respect of the programs and services,

AND WHEREAS SVCA is prepared to provide certain non-mandatory Category 3 programs and services to and/or on behalf of and/or within the boundaries of the Participating Municipality,

AND WHEREAS pursuant to Sections 25 and 27 of the Act, conservation authorities are authorized to apportion costs to municipalities for delivery of mandatory programs and services and general operating expenses,

AND WHEREAS pursuant to Section 25 and 27 of the Act and Ontario Regulation 687/21, conservation authorities and municipalities may enter into an Agreement to allow for the apportionment of costs to municipalities for programs and services provided, other than mandatory programs and services,

AND WHEREAS the Participating Municipality wishes to avail themselves of the non-mandatory Category 3 programs and services attached hereto as **Schedule 'A'**,

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Participating Municipality has authorized the Participating Municipality to enter into this Agreement with SVCA for the delivery of Category 3 programs and services,

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the terms of this Agreement and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. This Agreement shall commence on the Effective Date and shall continue for five (5) years (the **"Initial Term"**). Thereafter, this Agreement shall continue for additional five-year periods (each a **"Renewal Term"**) unless either party provides written notice of termination to the other party at least ninety (90) days prior to the expiry of the Initial Term or Renewal Term, as the case may be.
2. This Agreement shall be reviewed by the parties at least six (6) months prior to the expiry of the Initial Term and each Renewal Term.
3. SVCA agrees to provide the Category 3 programs and services outlined in **Schedule 'A'** to this Agreement.
4. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Participating Municipality acknowledges and agrees that all Category 3 programs and services identified in Schedule 'A' shall also be included in a Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy that the SVCA is required to develop and implement under the Act.
5. SVCA will not add to or delete from the list of Category 3 programs and services funded through municipal apportionment without first consulting with all participating municipalities. Any such change would require an amendment to this Agreement agreed to in writing by all participating municipalities.
6. The costs associated with the Category 3 programs and services subject to this Agreement shall be reviewed by the participating municipalities on an annual basis as part of the SVCA budget and apportionment process.

7. When preparing its annual budget, SVCA shall follow the prescribed budgetary process in accordance with the requirements of the applicable regulations under the Act, including preparation of a draft budget, consultations with participating municipalities, rules for voting to approve the apportionment, and preparation of the final budget.
8. SVCA's final approved budget shall be appended annually as **Schedule 'B'** to the Agreement.
9. SVCA and the Participating Municipality shall identify and agree upon the cost of relevant Category 3 programs and services in the annual budget, and shall comply with the prescribed methods of apportionment, including the Modified Current Value Assessment (MCVA) apportionment method (the ratio that the Participating Municipality's modified current value assessment bears to SVCA's modified current value assessment) and/or the benefit-based apportionment method (the benefit that each Participating Municipality obtains from the program or service to which the operating expense or capital cost is related), or where permitted in accordance with the applicable regulations, by agreement.
10. Where Category 3 programs and services are included in the budget process and apportionment, SVCA shall apportion the operating expenses and capital costs, as presented in the annual budget, to the Participating Municipality. The Participating Municipality's share of the total apportionment shall be appended annually as **Schedule 'C'** to this Agreement.
11. The Participating Municipality agrees to be apportioned costs as identified in **Schedule 'C'** to the Agreement.
12. Through this Agreement, the parties agree that the SVCA may, where applicable, charge a fee (user fee) for a Category 3 program or service provided under this Agreement by the SVCA. Any such fees collected for the programs and services identified in Schedule 'A' shall be used to offset the municipal apportionment costs associated with providing the Category 3 program and/or service for which the fee is collected.
13. Where Category 3 programs and services funded, in whole or in part, by the Participating Municipality involve user fees, such user fees shall only be imposed in accordance with SVCA's Fee Policy and Fee Schedules adopted in accordance with the provisions of the Act, or otherwise in accordance with provisions set out in an agreement between SVCA and the Participating Municipality.
14. SVCA and the Participating Municipality will strive to facilitate open and timely communication at all levels.

15. Unless otherwise provided for within the Act, if a dispute arises between the parties, including in respect of the content or interpretation of this Agreement, and which has not been resolved within sixty (60) days, such dispute may be submitted to a third party mediator, the choice of mediator to be agreed upon by the parties, and failing agreement to choose a mediator within an additional sixty (60) days, the mediator to be appointed by a judge of the Superior Court, for resolution via non-binding mediation conducted pursuant to the National Mediation Rules of the ADR.
16. Neither party shall be in default with respect to the performance or non-performance of the terms of the Agreement resulting directly or indirectly from causes beyond its reasonable control (other than for financial inability) that could not reasonably have been foreseen, including, without limitation, any delay caused by war, invasion, riots, acts of terrorism or sabotage, acts of government authority (other than by the Participating Municipality), plague, epidemic, pandemic, natural disaster, strike, lock-out, inability to procure material, acts, laws or regulations of government authority or other cause beyond the reasonable control of such party and not caused by the act or omission of such party, and the performance of such term or terms shall be extended for a period equivalent to the period of such delay. This provision should not relieve the Participating Municipality of its obligation to pay fees and costs when due.
17. If any provision of this Agreement is invalid, unenforceable, or unlawful, such provision shall be deemed to be deleted from this Agreement and all other provisions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect and shall be binding in all respects between the parties hereto.
18. The Participating Municipality and SVCA will continue to work together to identify opportunities for further collaboration to the benefit of both parties and ensure efficiency, transparency, and accountability in the use of public sector resources.
19. The resolution of the SVCA Board of Directors to execute this Agreement shall be included as **Schedule 'D'** to this Agreement.
20. The resolution of Council from the Participating Municipality to execute this Agreement shall be included as **Schedule 'E'** to this Agreement.
21. This Agreement shall be made available to the public in accordance with the Act and any applicable regulations.
22. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts and when each party has executed a counterpart, each of such counterparts shall be deemed to be an original and all such counterparts, when taken together, shall constitute one and the same agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have entered into this Agreement as of the Effective Date.

SAUGEEN VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Per: _____

Name: Jennifer Stephens

Title: General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

Per: _____

Name: Barbara Dobreen

Title: Chair, SVCA Board of Directors

THE TOWN/MUNICIPALITY/TOWNSHIP OF ...

Per: _____

Name:

Title:

Per: _____

Name:

Title:

Schedule 'A' – Category 3 Programs and Services Requiring Apportionment

Service Area 1 – Water Quality Program

SVCA diligently conducts stream water quality monitoring at 14 locations within the watershed through the Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network. Given the extensive expanse of the watershed and the constrained number of sampling locations under the Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network, there were information voids. To ameliorate these deficits, SVCA instituted an in-house monitoring program in 2012, augmenting the network with an additional 15 monitoring sites distributed throughout the watershed. In concert, these programs yield the fundamental data indispensable for understanding the water quality status across the watershed.

Furthermore, SVCA has instituted a biomonitoring network encompassing twenty (20) water quality monitoring sites. Biomonitoring entails the utilization of organisms to evaluate environmental conditions, specifically water quality in this context. By monitoring benthic organisms, those that reside at the bottom of rivers and streams and possess specific tolerance thresholds for water quality conditions, SVCA can validate water chemistry findings through the biological data amassed at various locations throughout the watershed, thereby depicting a comprehensive characterization of water quality conditions.

Watershed Report Cards are developed every five (5) years using guidelines from Conservation Ontario. The Watershed Report Card is an excellent tool for conservation authorities to inform watershed residents about the health of their watershed in an easy-to-understand format. These Watershed Report Cards are a Category 3 Program using information collected directly from the two water quality monitoring programs described above.

The annual operating funds allocated for sustaining these water quality programs amount to \$119,050 for the year 2023. A business case, substantiating the perpetuation of these water quality programs, accompanies this Agreement.

Service Area 2 – Public Awareness and Communications for Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

SVCA's Communications, Community Outreach, and Public Awareness programming serve as instrumental tools in disseminating awareness pertaining to SVCA's array of programs and services. A considerable portion of this programming is financed in its entirety through the municipal levy, as it is primarily oriented towards mandatory programs and services (Category 1). However, an allocation of time and resources will be dedicated to buttress the non-mandatory components of the water quality monitoring program. For the year 2023, the operating funding budgeted for sustaining public awareness and communications specific to water quality monitoring programming stands at \$7,100.



2024 Business Case Water Quality Program

The intent of this business case is to underscore the vital importance of continued funding for the Water Quality Program managed by Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA). This program ensures the health of our watershed by promoting environmental sustainability, public health, and local economic stability.

Issued Date: June 29, 2023

Contact: Jennifer Stephens, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer, SVCA

Contact Info: 519-369-7206 or

Email to j.stephens@svca.on.ca

Water Quality Program

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1. Executive Summary

Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA) is one of the 36 conservation authorities in Ontario dedicated to protecting, restoring, and managing our natural resources.

The Saugeen watershed encompasses 4,675 km² in the counties of Bruce, Dufferin, Grey, Huron, and Wellington. SVCA's jurisdiction includes the Saugeen, Penetangore, Teeswater, and Pine Rivers, as well as the adjoining Lake Huron shoreline.

SVCA's Water Quality Program monitors, analyzes, and safeguards the health of our watershed. The key benefits of this program include environmental preservation, public health protection, economic sustainability, recreational opportunities enhancement, and education and awareness campaigns.

1.1 Recommended Solution

To sustain and build on these key benefits, it is vital to ensure the continuation of municipal funding through cost apportioning agreements as permitted under the *Conservation Authorities Act*. This funding structure not only secures the necessary resources to maintain the program's operational excellence but also demonstrates the municipalities' commitment to environmental conservation. By maintaining this funding, we can ensure the Water Quality Program continues to provide critical services, enhancing the health and wellbeing of our communities and the environment.

2. Introduction

2.1 Purpose of the Business Case

To demonstrate the value of SVCA's Water Quality Program and advocate for continued municipal funding.

This business case outlines the value, scope, and long-term benefits of the Water Quality Program managed by SVCA. Continued funding through municipal cost-apportioning agreements, as a Category 3 program and service, is requested to maintain this critical program.

The Water Quality Program plays an instrumental role in preserving our watershed's environmental health. This program allows SVCA to monitor and assess the quality of water and aquatic habitats within the Saugeen watershed. This program contributes significantly to our shared commitment towards sustainable natural resource management. The data collected through this program empowers our communities to implement effective strategies to protect our water resources against pollution, degradation, and understand the influences of climate change.

The significant funding invested through past municipal levy has allowed SVCA to sustain this fundamental program. These resources have been invaluable in supporting the broad-ranging work carried out by SVCA, from 2001 through today.

It is important to note that the ripple effects of this program extend beyond environmental considerations. The Water Quality Program underpins the intrinsic value of our natural heritage. The continuation of this program, therefore, is not just a matter of ecological preservation but is an investment in the resilience and prosperity of our communities.

In the ensuing document, we will delve into the specifics of our Water Quality Program, including its current accomplishments, its future potential, and its overall impact on the Saugeen watershed. Furthermore, we will present a clear case for why its continued funding is essential. We look forward to your active engagement with this crucial matter, confident that with your understanding and support, we can secure the long-term future of this key program and, by extension, the continued well-being of our watershed and its communities.

2.2 Scope and Limitations

The business case covers the importance, scope, and impact of the program, focusing on the Saugeen watershed. It does not consider alternate funding models or program redesign.

3. Current Situation

The SVCA's Water Quality Program is functioning well, but continued funding from municipalities is at risk due to the new arrangement as mandated by the province for mandatory and non-mandatory programs and services.

3.1 Background Relationship with Municipalities

Conservation authorities and the municipalities we serve share a mutual commitment to environmental conservation and sustainable community development. Conservation authorities provide vital services that support and enhance the quality of life within municipalities. These range from watershed management and water quality monitoring to flood monitoring and warning, regulation of development, habitat preservation, and conservation of sensitive lands.

In turn, municipalities provide vital support to conservation authorities, primarily in the form of funding and policy endorsement. Together, we work towards safeguarding natural resources, ensuring public health and safety, and fostering sustainable growth. This intricate relationship ensures that environmental priorities are balanced with socio-economic needs, leading to well-rounded, sustainable development that benefits current and future generations.

Thus, the relationship between conservation authorities and municipalities is not merely functional but is a critical partnership towards achieving our shared sustainability goals.

3.2 Background Information Regarding Category 3 Programs and Services

In 2021, *Conservation Authorities Act* amendments required conservation authorities to complete an inventory of programs and services by February 2022. The inventory has categorized our programs and services as follows:

Category 1: those prescribed as mandatory by the province;

Category 2: those delivered on behalf of a municipality; and

Category 3: those that further conservation, restoration, development, and management of natural resources.

Effective January 1, 2024, the continuation of Category 3 programs and services will necessitate the formalization of cost apportioning agreements between SVCA and each member municipality. This requirement ensures that municipal funding continues to support the effective delivery and implementation of our programs and services.

SVCA proposes that member municipalities commit to a five-year agreement. Provisions for conflict resolution, amendments, and early termination will be embedded within the agreement structure.

This agreement timeline ensures the seamless operation of our programs and services, while simultaneously allowing room for annual adaptations within the sanctioned budget or during review periods. Given that program implementation spans multiple years, a multiple year agreement offers necessary lead time for adjustments. Instances include securing lab services, ordering equipment, calibration solutions, and inventory. Similarly, watershed monitoring and reporting necessitate a multiple year engagement for efficiency and cost-effectiveness.

The agreement will also establish a cost distribution mechanism among the municipalities. SVCA suggests adhering to the existing levy apportionment calculation mandated by the Province of Ontario, known as the modified current value assessment method. This method is already in use for the remaining municipal levy apportionment for Category 1 mandatory programs and services, hence its adoption ensures consistency.

3.3 Program History

Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority historically started collecting water quality data in select locations as far back as the 1960's, partnering with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment. Surface water sampling in our watershed continued until provincial government funding was cut in 1996.

SVCA's Water Quality Program was revitalized in 2001 following the Walkerton Water Crisis of May 2000. The Walkerton Water Crisis stands as a stark reminder of the critical importance of enhanced water quality monitoring. In the small Ontario town of Walkerton, contamination of the town's water supply with *E. coli* bacteria led to a tragic public health crisis that caused the deaths of seven people and left more than two thousand residents ill. This calamity, one of the worst of its kind in Canadian history, occurred due to a combination of factors including faulty infrastructure, inadequate water treatment, and a lack of regulatory oversight.

In response to the crisis, the Ontario government instituted sweeping changes to water management policies, ushering in an era of heightened vigilance and commitment to protecting water quality.

SVCA's Water Quality Program was reestablished as a direct result of the lessons learned from Walkerton. This program, fueled by a sense of urgency and purpose, was tasked with the critical mandate to monitor, protect, and enhance the water quality in our jurisdiction, with the dual aims of ensuring public health and preventing a recurrence of such a devastating event.

3.4 Program Background

SVCA conducts regular surface and groundwater sampling at various sites across our watershed. We collect *in situ* general chemistry, complete lab analysis for indicator parameters, monitor groundwater chemistry levels, and review results in consideration of applicable legislation and guidelines. We also undertake biomonitoring of benthic macroinvertebrates, which serve as key indicators of long-term trends in water quality and ecosystem health.

Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network – Category 1 Program

This provincial water quality monitoring network was established over 50 years ago with collaboration between government and environmental agencies and local conservation authorities.

Under this program, SVCA staff collect surface water samples at 14 sites monthly during ice-free periods (April to November). These sites were selected based on our ability to measure water quality as it travels from a tributary to a larger basin, to monitor wastewater discharges, and to provide representative water quality conditions across our watershed. Samples are analyzed in a laboratory by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), for parameters such as nitrates, metals, phosphorus, and chloride, among others.

Surface Water Quality Monitoring – Category 3 Program

Our team completes monthly surface water sampling at 15 sites within SVCA's jurisdiction, during ice free periods. These sites were selected with support from the MECP to fill important data gaps within the provincial monitoring program given the size of SVCA's watershed. These samples undergo analysis by trusted private laboratories and are tested for parameters consistent with the provincial program. Testing for *E. coli* at all provincial and SVCA sites is also completed under this program.

Water quality monitoring is essential to identify man-made sources or activities that affect the suitability of surface water for drinking water source protection, conservation of aquatic life, and recreational opportunities. This data is used in the management of aquatic ecosystems, to determine where actions may be needed, and to evaluate the efficacy of policy actions. Long-term data collection and trending is key to determine if water quality is improving or deteriorating over time.

Our water quality data allows SVCA to establish baseline conditions; establish and characterize long-term trends for various water quality indicator parameters; monitor compliance with Provincial Water Quality Objectives; provide information to municipalities and other regulatory agencies to support development (*i.e.*, nutrient inputs and loading, stormwater discharge, sewage facility discharges, and infrastructure removals, such as dams and weirs); and to determine the effectiveness of watershed programs.

Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network – Category 1 Program

SVCA staff monitor 23 different aquifers situated across 13 different locations within the watershed. These include ten deep wells delving into bedrock aquifers and thirteen wells analyzing shallow, overburden aquifers located in the sediment layer above the bedrock. Water

levels and water temperature in these wells are recorded on an hourly basis, and annual water quality samples are generally collected each Fall. Any instances of surpassing Ontario Drinking Water Quality Standards (ODWQS) are promptly reported to the respective municipalities and the local Health Unit. This consistent monitoring of changes in groundwater levels and quality assists SVCA in making informed decisions related to resource management. Moreover, rain gauges have been integrated into numerous well sites to provide a better understanding of the correlation between rainfall and groundwater levels, and water use and taking, supporting the groundwater component of our Low Water Response Program.

Ontario Benthos Biomonitoring Program – Category 3 Program

Each year, we collect benthic macroinvertebrates—organisms such as bottom-dwelling insects, crustaceans, worms, and mollusks—from rivers and streams across the watershed. These creatures serve as excellent indicators of water quality. The presence, absence, or relative abundance of various species provides invaluable insights into water quality and the extent and sources of habitat degradation based on their tolerance to pollution. Biomonitoring and surface water quality sampling go together; biomonitoring identifies that there is a problem with the health of an aquatic system, and surface water sampling can help identify what that problem is and how it can be mitigated. Abundance and the type of organism found in a watercourse can also serve as an excellent proxy for the health of other aquatic organisms, such as fish populations. This data is critical for support of recreational activities, such as fishing, kayaking, and swimming, as well as economic development through tourism.

Watershed Report Cards – Category 3 Program

Watershed Report Cards are developed every five (5) years using guidelines from Conservation Ontario. All conservation authorities across Ontario develop the Report Cards to ensure consistent reporting across the province and to provide watershed residents with a high-level summary of the state of our watershed resources, as well as to identify potential stressors, such as rapid urbanization, changing land uses, and climate change. There are four key indicators that are used in the preparation of the Watershed Report Card: groundwater quality, surface water quality, forest coverage, and wetland coverage.

The Watershed Report Card is an excellent tool for conservation authorities to inform watershed residents about the health of their watershed in an easy-to-understand format. The format simplifies the extensive amounts of research and technical data.

Healthy Lake Huron Initiative – Category 3 Program

Since 2011, SVCA, along with similar organizations, has been actively engaged in a collaborative effort to safeguard and enhance the water quality of Lake Huron, focusing on areas that demand immediate remedial action. Part of SVCA's contribution involves the monthly collection of baseline and storm-event (runoff) samples from the South Pine River located in the Township of Huron-Kinloss. This water chemistry data, in conjunction with meteorological data, is fed into a computer-based model. This predictive tool enhances our understanding of how sediment and pollutants, such as nutrients, migrate from land into waterbodies.

Drinking Water Source Protection – Category 1 Program

The Water Quality Program is integral to SVCA's contribution towards the Drinking Water Source Protection Program, a mandated program under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*. Its primary objective is to safeguard the quality and quantity of current and future sources of municipal drinking water, thus ensuring the long-term availability of clean, safe drinking water for our communities.

In the Saugeen – Grey Sauble – North Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Region, Saugeen Conservation collaborates with Grey Sauble Conservation Authority and the Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula to protect 38 municipal residential drinking water systems. The data collected through our Water Quality Program provides the baseline for the Drinking Water Source Protection Plan's Assessment Report which is the technical foundation of the Source Protection Plan.

The Source Protection Plan determines the areas that are vulnerable or at risk of contamination and outlines a set of policies to address any identified threats. The Plan also provides specific timelines for policy implementation and necessitates ongoing monitoring of policy. This approach involves managing and mitigating risks through the effective use of existing legislation and regulations.

3.5 The Value of Data

The Water Quality Program's ability to continually provide updated, accurate data is crucial for proactive and informed decision-making within the Conservation Authority as well as to support economic development. The true value of data lies in its continuity and accumulation over time. With over twenty years of managing this program, the data collected can be used to establish long-term trends in watershed health, and therefore lend itself to detecting anomalies, predict outcomes, and make informed decisions.

The process of data collection is an ongoing narrative, where each data point connects to another, forming a continuous story of our watershed's health. Interruptions to this process can have profound implications. If we were to cease collecting data now, the existing wealth of information would lose much of its potency. Without continuity, discerning long-term trends or detecting subtle but significant changes becomes virtually impossible, thus undermining the informative value of the data we've gathered. Therefore, it is essential to maintain our data collection efforts to protect the integral value of the two-decade-long narrative we have built and enable us to proactively protect our watershed.

The need to continue data collection becomes particularly pressing considering climate change, an urgent global challenge that necessitates informed, proactive, and adaptive responses. As weather patterns become more unpredictable and extreme events more frequent, our understanding of how these changes impact our water quality is of paramount importance. Our data collection efforts allow us to track changes, identify emerging trends, and forecast potential challenges, informing our responses, and aiding in the development of strategies to mitigate the impacts of climate change. Without a continuous record, it will be nearly

impossible to determine if environmental impacts are local (*i.e.*, point source pollution) or a result of changing background conditions (*i.e.*, climate change).

At SVCA, we are keenly aware of the power of data as a tool for change and are in the process of making our water quality data publicly accessible and AODA (*Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act*) compliant via Microsoft Power-bi. This initiative aims to democratize data access, allowing any student, researcher, public authority, or government to utilize this valuable resource. By making this data widely available, we enable a multitude of stakeholders to engage in meaningful scientific investigations, supporting planning and development, enhancing our collective understanding of climate change impacts, and contributing to the creation of strategies that protect our environment and keep our communities safe. We are also in the process of preparing an annual water quality report to summarize, in depth, the current state of our watershed and how it might impact our communities.

3.6 Risks and Issues with the Current State

Loss of municipal funding would lead to discontinuation of this critical programs, posing significant ecological and economic impacts.

The prospect of losing funding for the Water Quality Program at SVCA carries with it more than just the discontinuation of a service; it represents the potential loss of a significant investment made by our municipalities over the years. A minimum amount of 2.9 million dollars has been directed towards this program, building its capacity, honing its methods, and accumulating a wealth of valuable data.

This investment should not be perceived as a sunk cost, but rather as a strategic commitment towards the long-term health and sustainability of our shared environment and communities. If funding were to be discontinued, so too would be the inherent value of the program and its accumulated data. It would be akin to abruptly abandoning a critical infrastructure project mid-way, thereby diminishing the returns on the investment made thus far.

Conservation authorities such as Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA) are at the forefront of environmental conservation, utilizing the most efficient and scientifically backed methods to gather water quality data. Our extensive network, experienced team, and deep local knowledge ensure data collection is accurate, relevant, and cost-effective. It is important to note that outsourcing these data collection activities would invariably lead to significantly increased expenses, as there are no other local non-profit agencies equipped with the expertise and resources to carry out this critical task.

Furthermore, no alternative sources of this precise, area-specific information exist. If water quality monitoring ceases, or there is a gap in the data record, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to determine if temporal changes and trends in the data are due to pollution or site-specific sources, or if the changes can be attributed to watershed-wide factors such as climate change or natural variability.

Continuation of this SVCA program ensures a complete, reliable record. Therefore, the Water Quality Program implemented by SVCA is not only economically sound, but it also delivers

invaluable insights that could not be readily obtained otherwise, reinforcing the necessity of our work and the essential need for its continued funding.

Therefore, it is of utmost importance that we recognize and appreciate the true value of the Water Quality Program, understanding it not as a recurring cost, but as an ongoing investment in our region's environmental health, economic vitality, and overall resilience.

A commitment to sustained funding is critical to ensure that we continue to extract the maximum potential value from this significant investment for the benefit of our communities and the environment.

Please see Appendix B – Water Quality Program Investment.

4. Business Needs and Requirements

4.1 Objectives and Outcomes

Secure continued funding, maintain water quality, ensure public health, and promote sustainable local economic development.

The objectives and outcomes of our Water Quality Program are clear and interconnected, underpinning our collective vision of a sustainable Authority. At the forefront of these objectives is securing continued funding. This is a critical prerequisite to maintain the program's ongoing effectiveness and its ability to deliver tangible outcomes. By maintaining the Water Quality Program, we safeguard the ecological health of our watershed, preserving biodiversity and ensuring the longevity of our natural resources. Inextricably linked to this is our commitment to ensuring public health. By preserving water quality, we protect our communities from waterborne diseases, promote development and ensure a safe and healthy environment for our residents.

Lastly, our program aims to promote sustainable local economic development. Through our actions, we protect and enhance the region's natural assets, such as clean water and diverse ecosystems, which support various economic activities, from agriculture to tourism. In doing so, we ensure the long-term economic vitality of our region, providing a foundation for growth that balances environmental sustainability with socio-economic progress. Each of these objectives, while distinct, feeds into and reinforces the others, creating a holistic approach to our regional efforts.

4.2 Key Deliverables

Continued delivery of Category 3 programs, including surface water quality monitoring (i.e., sample collection, analysis, and reporting), biomonitoring, and public awareness campaigns such as watershed report cards.

4.3 Critical Success Factors

Success of the Water Quality Program is dependent upon sustained municipal funding, effective program execution by Saugeen Conservation and stakeholder support.

4.4 Recommended Solution

Continued funding of the Water Quality Program through 5-year cost apportioning agreements.

4.5 How This Meets Business Needs and Requirements

Municipal funding has historically supported the program and would meet current and anticipated future needs.

4.6 Alternative Solutions Considered and Why They Were Not Chosen

While enthusiastic, engagement with grassroots organizations proves to be unreliable due to the changing nature of their membership, varying degrees of experience and education, administrative issues (such as insurance) and their ability to access land (particularly private).

Research has been conducted to explore alternative funding avenues. However, other funding streams, while potentially supplementary, do not possess the capacity to replace the substantial monetary commitment provided by municipal funding, without threatening the continuity and effectiveness of the Water Quality Program. Funding from municipalities can be supported by additional sources but cannot be sustained by them.

5. Benefits and Risks

5.1 Tangible and Intangible Benefits

In the realm of tangible benefits, the scientific outputs of the Water Quality Program offer invaluable insight into our watershed's health, providing the data necessary to detect and predict environmental changes, prioritize conservation efforts, support sustainable development, and guide critical decision-making processes. Clean water, biodiversity preservation, healthier communities, sustainable local economies, and educational opportunities are tied to this program.

As for intangible benefits, the Water Quality Program bolsters public trust and community well-being, cultivates an ethos of environmental stewardship, and fortifies the social contract between municipalities and their residents by ensuring the safeguarding of our natural resources for present and future generations.

5.2 Costs and Risks Involved

Funding disruption could jeopardize the program's continuance and its associated benefits.

The Water Quality Program is funded through shared cost apportionment among 15 municipalities, demonstrating an impressive model of cooperative environmental stewardship. This shared cost approach not only makes the financial burden more manageable for each municipality but also promotes the health of our shared watershed, which naturally transcends municipal boundaries. By investing in this program, these municipalities are embracing a profound sense of community and collective responsibility, safeguarding our shared environment for the greater good, and fostering a stronger, more resilient region for everyone. This is a clear example of a commitment to the principles of 'being a good neighbour', and to

the understanding that protecting our natural resources is a responsibility that extends beyond borders.

Additionally, it's critical to understand that the shared funding model also implies a shared business risk; if even one municipality opts out of the program, the Water Quality Program is compromised, threatening the continuity of this invaluable environmental initiative for the entire region.

5.3 Risk Mitigation Strategies

Risk mitigation forms an essential part of our strategy to secure the continuity of the Water Quality Program.

One approach is advocacy for continued funding; SVCA is committed to maintaining a strong, ongoing advocacy campaign aimed at securing sustained funding for the program. This involves clearly communicating the program's benefits and significance to member municipalities, and other stakeholders.

The other approach is active stakeholder engagement; engagement with all stakeholders is another critical risk mitigation strategy. We believe in fostering an environment of transparency, collaboration and open dialogue with municipalities, community members, and other partners about all work and services offered through SVCA.

6. Implementation Plan

6.1 Timeline

At the May 20, 2023 Meeting, the SVCA Board of Directors gave staff the direction to develop a business case to accompany the draft cost-apportioning Agreement that has been prepared to negotiate with municipalities. The Directors requested that staff engage with senior administrative municipal staff on the draft Agreement prior to returning to their next meeting on July 20, 2023 with a proposed Agreement to take to municipal Councils requesting a resolution to continue with Category 3 Programs and Services.

Following the July 20, 2023 meeting, SVCA staff will pursue reaching out to Councils with an Agreement and the business cases to support program continuation. Agreements must be in place with municipalities by January 1, 2024 for the continuation of Category 3 programs and services.

6.2 Stakeholders and Their Roles and Responsibilities

Saugen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA)

SVCA bears the primary responsibility for executing the Water Quality Program. This includes planning, monitoring, data collection, analysis, and reporting. Additionally, SVCA will continue to seek out additional revenue streams, such as environmental grants and partnerships, to supplement the funding received through municipalities.

Municipal Governments

Municipal governments play a critical role in providing funding through the municipal levy (Category 1 programs) and cost apportioning agreements (Category 3 programs) which is essential for the continuation and effectiveness of SVCA's Water Quality Program. Municipal commitment to this funding model illustrates recognition of the program's importance and value to communities and constituents. Furthermore, municipal governments can also contribute by promoting the program's objectives within their jurisdictions and supporting initiatives that align with the conservation of water quality and overall watershed health.

6.3 Potential Barriers to Implementation

Watersheds transect municipal boundaries, requiring inter-jurisdictional cooperation and agreement.

7. Financial Analysis

7.1 Cost of Proposed Solution

Fees supporting the Water Quality Program that have not been allocated to Category 1 Programs and Services would be apportioned to municipalities using the modified current value assessment method as these are watershed-wide programs that benefit all municipalities and residents.

Please see Appendix C – Cost Apportionment of Water Quality Program.

7.2 Return on Investment Analysis

Benefits of a healthy watershed significantly outweigh the investment; there is a high return on investment in terms of environmental, health, and economic benefits.

Analysis

The Return on Investment (ROI) analysis for the Water Quality Program at Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority strongly supports its ongoing funding. When considering ROI, it is vital to acknowledge the multidimensional nature of the returns generated by the program. These returns are not merely financial but extend to substantial environmental, health, and economic benefits.

Environmental returns manifest in the preservation of our local watershed's health, ensuring a robust and resilient ecosystem for future generations. Health benefits are realized through the prevention of waterborne diseases, enhancing the wellbeing of our community, and indirectly contributing to savings in healthcare costs. Economic returns are generated via sustainable local development and activities dependent on a clean and reliable water source, such as agriculture and tourism.

However, a crucial factor influencing this ROI is the ongoing nature of the program. The program's capacity to continuously collect and analyze data is integral to its value. The longitudinal data it generates enables the detection of trends and anomalies, informing proactive management strategies and contributing to the program's preventative capabilities.

Thus, to realize and maximize this ROI, the continuity of the program, underpinned by sustained funding, is vital. Any disruption could impair our ability to capitalize fully on these valuable returns, emphasizing the necessity for consistent investment in the Water Quality Program.

8. Critical Assumptions and Dependencies

8.1 List of Assumptions Made in the Business Case

One of the crucial assumptions of this business case is that municipal funding will continue through cost apportioning agreements. Funding apportionment would increase annually as it would with the levy. This funding provides the primary resource enabling the program to maintain and enhance its operations.

8.2 Key Dependencies for Successful Execution

The successful execution of the Water Quality Program heavily relies on the continued support and funding from our member municipalities. Their understanding of the program's value and their commitment to upholding it are essential to our mission.

Success also depends on effective execution by SVCA, as it is SVCA's responsibility to effectively implement the program, from consistent monitoring and data collection to timely reporting and public education, is a crucial dependency. The team's expertise, dedication, and effective management are fundamental to delivering the program's objectives and outcomes.

9. Conclusion

The Water Quality Program, managed by SVCA, offers substantial benefits to the Saugeen watershed, a region encompassing five counties. The program plays a pivotal role in preserving water quality, promoting public health, and fostering local economic sustainability. Its educational initiatives also increase community awareness about water conservation, strengthening public involvement in watershed health.

Thus, continued funding through municipalities remains vital. This funding model enables the program to maintain its valuable work, contributing significantly to the well-being of the watershed and the municipalities within its bounds.

Appendix A: 2022 Watershed Report Card

Saugeen Conservation has prepared this report card as a summary of the 2017-2021 state of water quality, forests, and wetlands in our watershed. These report cards are released every five years together with Conservation Ontario.

A watershed describes an area, and the waterways that flow through it and towards a major outlet such as a lake. Everything in a watershed is connected and actions upstream can affect conditions downstream.

We measure certain features in our watershed to learn about their current condition, as well as trends. This information helps us plan for the future.

Groundwater

Groundwater is flowing water that is found below the ground, that is often stored in aquifers. Groundwater is monitored at 23 sites in our watershed through the Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network (PGMN). Groundwater quality for this report was graded on chloride and nitrogen (nitrate + nitrite) levels.

Chloride and nitrogen can exist naturally, however natural levels in water are generally minimal. Increased levels in our waterways can be related to:

- the use of road salts (chloride only)
- septic systems
- fertilizers and manure
- industrial discharge
- erosion

What's different in this report card?

Previous watershed report cards only used five years of data to come up with their findings. This report card uses a minimum of ten years of data, or more if it was available for a better view of long-term trends.

Our Findings:

Chloride levels at all tested sites received a grade of A (excellent).

Nitrogen levels at most (86%) of the sites received a grade of A (excellent).

Two sites received nitrogen grades of B (good) and one site received a D (poor).

Different nitrogen grades from these sites could be caused by using more data from a longer period of time. The three sites that did not receive an A grade are in locations where we might expect to see higher levels of nitrogen, based on their environments.

The map is a visual representation of our findings.



Note:

- These findings are not to be considered indicators of drinking water quality.
- Groundwater quality results being reported are specific to the site location and do not apply to the watershed as a whole.
- No biological levels (ie. *E.coli*) were considered.

Surface Water Quality

Surface water is monitored at 31 sites along major streams and rivers in our watershed. This monitoring happens through the Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network (PWQMN) and through Saugeen Conservation's own network. Sampling occurs monthly from April to November each year. Surface water quality for this report was graded on phosphorus, *Escherichia coli* (*E.coli*), and benthic macroinvertebrates.

Phosphorus is an essential nutrient for all living organisms, however it can have harmful effects on aquatic life at high levels. Phosphorus levels can be natural, and increase with human influence.

E.coli is a type of bacteria commonly found in the intestines of warm blooded animals. *E. coli* is often used as an indicator of contamination from human and animal waste. *E.coli* levels may increase after heavy rainfalls and snowmelt.

Benthic macroinvertebrates refer to small aquatic bugs that live on the bottom of streams, rivers, and lakes; they can tell us about long term water quality because they are sensitive to their environments. Certain types of bugs can only thrive in good water, as they have a low tolerance to pollution.

What's different in this report card?

Previous watershed report cards only used the downstream monitoring sites. This report card used data from all surface water sites in our watershed. Using more data allows us to have more confidence in our findings.

Our Findings:

- Overall grades range from A (Excellent) to C (Fair), with mostly (60%) B (Good) grades.
- Most overall grades have not changed from the 2018 report card, however the Beatty Saugeen River, Lake Fringe and Upper Main Saugeen River areas have improved.
- Phosphorus grades fell in the South Saugeen River and Lower Main Saugeen River. Remaining grades stayed the same.
- E.coli grades remained mostly unchanged across the watershed, with improvement for the Penetangore River area.
- Benthic macroinvertebrate grades generally improved.

The map is a visual representation of our findings.



Note:

Streams and rivers are constantly changing, and water quality results represent only a snapshot in time.

Forest Conditions

Forests provide important habitat for wildlife and plants. Forests also give us cleaner air and water, economic benefits, and recreational areas for people to enjoy.

Forest conditions in the 2022 report card were graded on the percentage of forest cover, forest interior and riparian cover, which is the area between land and a river or stream.

Forests in our watershed have changed since early settlement, with agriculture and housing development driving the demand for forest clearing. The growing presence of invasive plant and animal species can also overwhelm forests.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) tools were used to determine forest grades.

Our Findings:

- Grades range from A (excellent) to D (poor), with mostly B (good) and C (fair).

The map is a visual representation of our findings.



Note:

- Forests grow slowly, but the benefits begin as soon as trees are planted. Changes in forest cover will be noticed in five years or more.
- In 2022, Saugeen Conservation planted 28,000 trees and more than that number again were sold directly to landowners for independent planting.

Wetland Conditions

Wetlands play a very important role in our watershed. They help lessen the impact of floods and droughts, protect our shorelines, absorb pollutants, improve water quality, and provide habitats for many species. Protecting our wetlands is critical to the well being of people and our planet.

Wetlands were graded on the percentage of wetland cover. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) tools were used to inform wetland grades.

Our Findings:

- Grades range from A (excellent) to D (poor) with mostly excellent grades.
- Only 17.5% of the Saugeen watershed is covered by wetlands.

The map is a visual representation of our findings.



What can you do to support the health of our watershed?

- Support your local conservation authority through donation
- Volunteer with local environmental organizations
- Advocate for the environment through delegations to municipal council, and engaging your elected officials
- If your municipality has an environmental committee of council, consider joining
- Ask your local government to support environmental initiatives
- If you have a septic system, inspect and pump it every three to five years
- Decommission unused or damaged wells
- Dispose of household chemicals at hazardous waste depots
- Plant native species and educate yourself on invasives in your area

Consider how we are all connected.

Appendix B: Investment in Water Quality Program Table

Year	Water Quality Budget	Today's dollars
2001	9,000	14,393
2002	173,000	271,932
2003	124,580	190,276
2004	108,927	163,652
2005	81,263	119,226
2006	81,470	116,684
2007	93,470	130,992
2008	97,519	134,379
2009	98,747	135,593
2010	97,118	130,942
2011	96,626	126,146
2012	99,898	127,856
2013	99,831	127,250
2014	102,203	127,672
2015	106,601	132,111
2016	104,208	127,031
2017	114,246	137,025
2018	109,797	128,824
2019	98,302	113,047
2020	100,890	116,280
2021	99,400	110,807
2022	109,650	114,481
Totals	2,206,746	2,896,600

This appendix presents an Investment in Water Quality Program Table by Member Municipalities, providing a financial overview of the program. The numbers detailed within this table are derived from audited financial statements, focusing on budgeted amounts as these represent the financial commitments that our Board of Directors have allocated to the program over the years. It is important to note that the actual expenses incurred have closely aligned with the budgeted projections, reflecting the accuracy of our planning process.

To account for the effect of inflation over the years and to present a more accurate representation of the monetary value today, the Bank of Canada's inflation calculator was utilized to adjust the historical values.

Following these adjustments, the total investment that SVCA has made to the Water Quality Program since 2001 stands at approximately \$2.9 million dollars, illustrating our long-standing commitment to maintaining and enhancing the quality of our water resources.

Please note that the figures presented in the table exclusively reflect the financial contributions made by our Member Municipalities towards the Water Quality Program. They do not account for additional funding sourced from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, grant

procurement initiatives, or other strategic partnerships. These external funding streams, although not included in these totals, have been instrumental in supplementing the resources provided by our Member Municipalities, thereby enhancing the overall financial support for the program.

Appendix C: Cost Apportionment of Water Quality Program by Municipality

Municipality	Amount
Arran-Elderslie	\$2,986
Brockton	\$10,280
Chatsworth	\$3,565
Grey Highlands	\$5,166
Hanover	\$7,789
Howick	\$321
Huron-Kinloss	\$6,597
Kincardine	\$20,823
Minto	\$3,235
Morris-Turnberry	\$228
Saugeen Shores	\$25,046
South Bruce	\$5,765
Southgate	\$8,124
Wellington North	\$4,693
West Grey	\$14,432
Totals	\$119,050

Appendix D: Water Quality Annual Report Preview – DRAFT

Excerpt from DRAFT 2022 Water Quality Report

This document is a draft only and is not intended for distribution. Data review and analysis is still on-going.

1. Introduction

The Saugeen Watershed is divided into ten sub-watersheds, each having its own natural and man-made features (see Figure XX).

Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA) closely monitors the quality of water in the area. SVCA works with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) as part of the Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network (PWQMN) to check water at 14 sites. PWQMN is essential for collecting information on the water's chemicals and physical properties.

Given the size of the watershed, 14 sites were not enough to collect all the needed information. In 2012, SVCA started an additional program to monitor 15 additional sites. Moreover, two more sites are part of an initiative called Healthy Lake Huron. Now, there are 31 sites in total where the water is monitored. This helps us gather the data needed to understand the health of the watershed.

SVCA collects benthic macroinvertebrates at 20 sites. This helps us understand the overall health of the watershed. These creatures serve as excellent indicators of water quality. The presence, absence, or relative abundance of various species provides invaluable insights into water quality.

As more people live in the area and farming activities increase, along with changes in weather patterns, it's increasingly important to keep an eye on water quality conditions. This is necessary because these changes can put pressure on the water environment. The monitoring programs help SVCA systematically collect important information, which is crucial for understanding and maintaining the quality of water both now and in the future.

2.0 Methods

2.1 Field Sampling

2.1.1 Surface Water

Surface water samples are collected using in-stream “grab” techniques throughout the year, typically in the first week of every month, during ice free periods (April to November). These samples are collected in accordance with PWQMN sample protocols. Additionally, *in situ* measurements of water temperature, pH, specific conductivity, turbidity, oxidative redox potential, and dissolved oxygen are collected at the time of sample collection. Sampling was conducted independent of precipitation events, however, precipitation data from the day of and two days prior to sampling were considered during data analysis.

Appendix D: This document is a draft only and is not intended for distribution. Data review and analysis is still on-going.

In 2022, surface water samples were collected at 31 sites within SVCA's watershed: 14 sites under the PWQMN program, 15 sites under SVCA's internal monitoring program, and 2 sites under the Healthy Lake Huron stewardship initiative.

All samples collected under the PWQMN and Healthy Lake Huron programs were analyzed at the MECP laboratory, while SVCA samples were sent externally to SGS laboratories.

Sample collection in 2020 was variable due to laboratory shutdowns associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. SVCA sampling was not completed at this time, PWQMN sampling was only available during the months of January, October, and November 2020.



2.1.2 Benthic Macroinvertebrates

Benthic macroinvertebrates were collected at 20 sites throughout the Saugeen watershed using the Ontario Benthic Biomonitoring Network (OBBN) stream sampling protocol. Samples are collected bi-annually in May using a typical “kick-and-sweep” method with a D-net. As per OBBN protocol, three replicate samples are collected to cover different sections of the watercourse, encompassing two riffles and one pool, per sample site. The kick-and-sweep collection method is undertaken across each riffle and pool section to ensure a minimum of 100-animal count is obtained. Samples are then sieved and placed into plastic containers,

Appendix D: This document is a draft only and is not intended for distribution. Data review and analysis is still on-going.

preserved with 95% ethanol. Large debris is discarded after confirming no loss of macroinvertebrates. Finally, samples are transported and stored in a cool environment until sorting is completed.

2.2 Laboratory Analysis

2.2.1 Surface Water

All surface water samples are analyzed using a standard set of water quality parameters, as noted in Appendix X. Metals are also sampled at select sites under the PWQMN program.

The Lower Main Saugeen River at Burgoyne (Q4) is also sampled monthly, from April to November, for parameters associated with pesticide monitoring. The pesticide monitoring program is in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) and the [MECP](#). This separate program is focused on Southern Ontario where there is heavy agricultural use. The program aims to characterize pesticide levels in the water and note trends with time. A report on these trends was published in 2022 for all sites across Southern Ontario.¹

For this report, six parameters were selected for discussion. These parameters are total phosphorus, nitrogen (nitrate-nitrite), chloride, total suspended solids, *E. coli*, and benthic macroinvertebrates (Table 1). The results for each parameter were compared to Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWQO) or Canadian Water Quality Guidelines (CWQG) (Table 1).

PWQO were developed to protect all forms of aquatic life and all parts of their lifecycle. Additionally, PWQO can be used to protect recreational users by reviewing public health considerations (OMOEE 1994).

Where possible, the PWQO were used as they relate more specifically to surface water parameters. CWQG is typically associated with drinking water standards.

Total suspended solids and chloride are not identified in the PWQO and therefore they were reviewed against the CWQG.

Table 1. Provincial Water Quality Objectives (PWQO) & Canadian Water Quality Guidelines (CWQG).

Parameter (Unit)	Water Quality Objectives/Guidelines (Unit)	PWQO or CWQG	
Total Phosphorus (mg/L)	0.03 mg/L	PWQO	
Nitrogen; nitrite-nitrate (mg/L)	10 mg/L	PWQO	
Total Suspended Solids (TSS) (mg/L)	30 mg/L	CWQG	

¹ [Raby, M., Lissemore, L., Kaltenecker, G., Beaton, D., & Prosser, R. S. \(2022\). Characterizing the exposure of streams in southern Ontario to agricultural pesticides. Chemosphere, 294, 133769.](#)

Appendix D: This document is a draft only and is not intended for distribution. Data review and analysis is still on-going.

<i>Parameter (Unit)</i>	<i>Water Quality Objectives/Guidelines (Unit)</i>	<i>PWQO or CWQG</i>	
Escherichia coli (<i>E. coli</i>) CFU/100mL)	(100 CFU/100mL)	PWQO	
Chloride (mg/L)	120 mg/L	CWQG	

2.2.2 Benthic Macroinvertebrates

Identification of benthic macroinvertebrates requires specific skills and certification under the Ontario Benthos Biomonitoring Network. SVCA certified staff can complete the analysis for benthic macroinvertebrates in-house.

Collected samples are rinsed and sieved through 500 um mesh to remove fine particulates. Large debris is removed and discarded, ensuring no loss of specimens. Each sample is then stirred, and a sub-sample is collected. Specimens are picked out of the sub-sample and reviewed under a microscope for identification. In accordance with OBBN protocol, specimens are identified to the Group 27 taxonomic level. Specimens are ‘picked’ from the sample until a total of 100 specimens have been analyzed.

Due time constraints, 2020 and 2021 samples were analyzed by the University of Windsor.

2.3 Parameters

2.3.1 Total Phosphorus

Phosphorus is a crucial nutrient for the growth of aquatic plants and algae. Phosphorus is a key factor in the overall health and productivity of freshwater ecosystems.

Phosphorus levels can occur naturally through soil and rock erosion. Phosphorus can also be impacted by human inputs such as fertilizers, manure, development, and industrial waste. High phosphorus levels are typically associated with storm events and high turbidity.

High phosphorus levels can lead to excess plant and algae growth, which reduces the oxygen needed for other aquatic species to survive.

The Provincial Water Quality Objective for phosphorus in streams is 0.03 mg/L (Table X).

2.3.2 Nitrogen: nitrate-nitrite

Like phosphorus, nitrogen is an important nutrient for aquatic plants and algae growth. However, high levels of nitrogen can be harmful to aquatic organisms. Nitrogen can reduce dissolved oxygen in the water, which organisms rely on to survive.

Nitrogen can occur naturally, however, it can also be present due to human-made sources, such as fertilizers, manure, failing septic systems, and industrial waste. Fertilizers and agricultural runoff are often the most significant source of high nitrogen levels in a watercourse.

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Nitrogen in water is a combination of nitrite (NO₂⁻) and nitrate (NO₃⁻).

The Provincial Water Quality Objective for nitrogen is 10 mg/L (Table X).

2.3.3 Chloride

Chloride in watercourses often comes from winter maintenance activities which use salt. Once on roads, chlorides are easily washing into nearby ditches and make their way into larger rivers and lakes. Chlorides do not adhere to other minerals and therefore levels are often high in shallow waterbodies. Chlorides can be toxic to aquatic organisms.

The Canadian Water Quality Guidelines for chloride is 120 mg/L (Table X).

2.3.4 Total Suspended Solids (TSS)

Total suspended solids are a measure of the number of suspended particles in the water; it is often related to turbidity (i.e., cloudiness). Turbidity can exist naturally through erosion and watercourse flow or be impacted by human-made sources such as stormwater runoff and increased erosion from development or agriculture. If total suspended solids are high, sunlight may not reach the lower depths of a watercourse, making it difficult for plants and algae to grow.

Additionally, organics and metals often adhere to suspended solids, making them available for aquatic organisms to consume.

Canadian Water Quality Guidelines notes the maximum increase of TSS should be no more than 30 mg/L from background levels.

2.3.5 *E. coli*

Escherichia coli (*E. coli*) are a group of bacteria often found in the digestive systems of warm-blooded animals. They are commonly used to indicate the presence of fecal contamination as they are not naturally found in aquatic ecosystems (i.e., plants or in soils). These bacteria can cause stomach illness and potentially more serious health problems if consumed.

Provincial Water Quality Objectives suggest that water is safe for swimming when levels are less than 100 colony-forming units (CFU) / 100mL.

Since *E. coli* cannot survive long on their own, monthly surface water samples need to be reviewed alongside other parameters.

2.3.6 Benthic Macroinvertebrates

The term benthic macroinvertebrates refer to watercourse bottom-dwelling organisms such as insects, crustaceans, worms, and mollusks. These creatures serve as excellent indicators of water quality because of their tolerance to pollution. The presence and abundance of different species helps us understand water quality and overall watershed health.

Benthic macroinvertebrates can also serve as an excellent indicator for the health of other aquatic organisms, such as fish populations.

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3.0 South Saugeen River

The South Saugeen River sub-watershed covers has a drainage area of 798 km². This sub-watershed is through primarily agricultural land and includes watercourses such as Carrick, Meux, Bell's, and Fairbanks Creeks. The South Saugeen River ultimately flows into the Main Saugeen River, south of Hanover.

There are three samples sites within this sub-watershed (Figure X). These sites are a combination of PWQMN (Q10, and Q14) and SVCA's internal monitoring program (S13).

Precipitation data used for analysis was collected from SVCA's Mount Forest stream gauge station. Precipitation data for 2019 was not included.

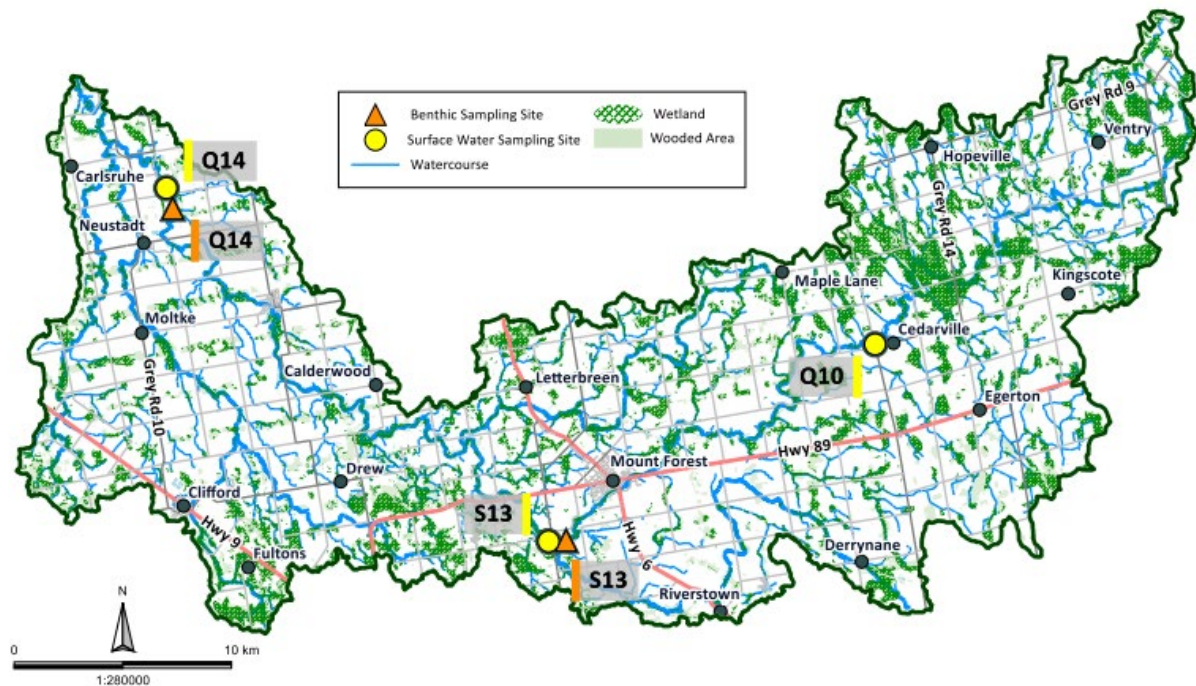


Figure 1: South Saugeen sub watershed map of surface water monitoring sites.

3.1 Results

3.1.1 Surface Water – 2022 Results

In 2022, most parameters within this sub-watershed were below water quality objectives, except for phosphorus (Figure X) and *E. coli* (Figure X). Phosphorus and *E. coli* showed most change during the summer months and exceeded water quality objectives 25% of the time.

There were no exceedances for nitrogen, chloride, and total suspended solids in 2022.

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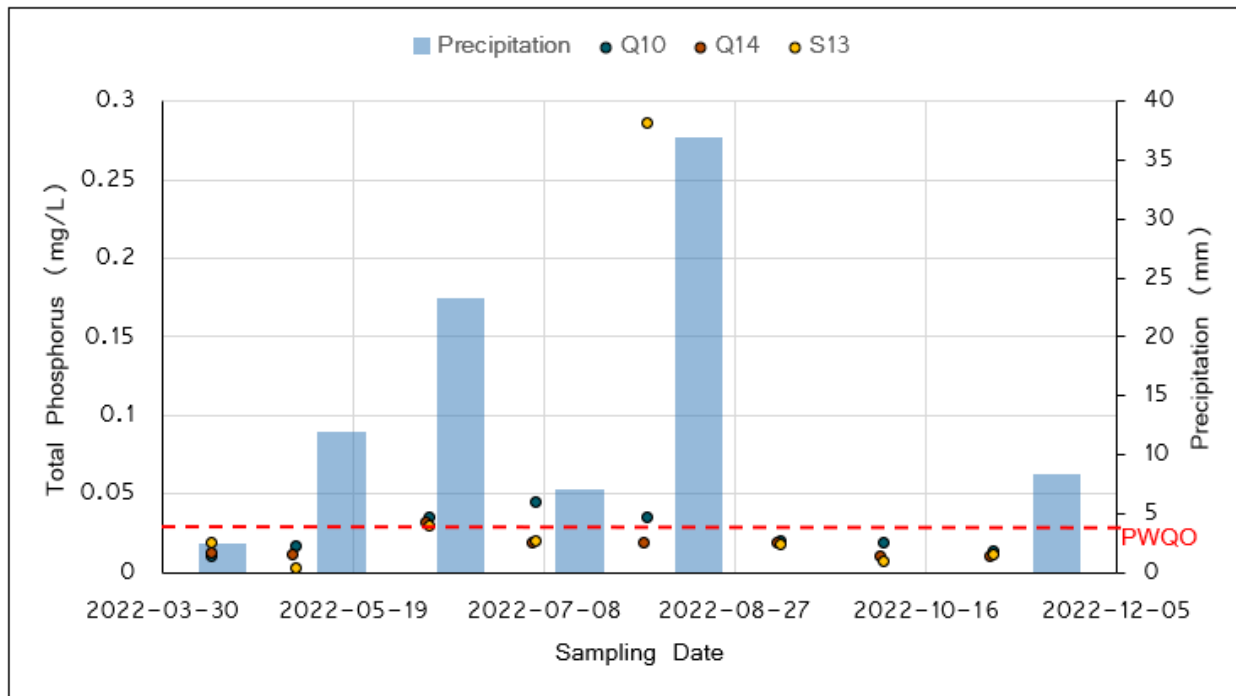


Figure 2: Total phosphorus (mg/L) concentrations for sampling locations within the South Saugeen River sub-watershed in 2022. PWQO= 0.03 mg/L.

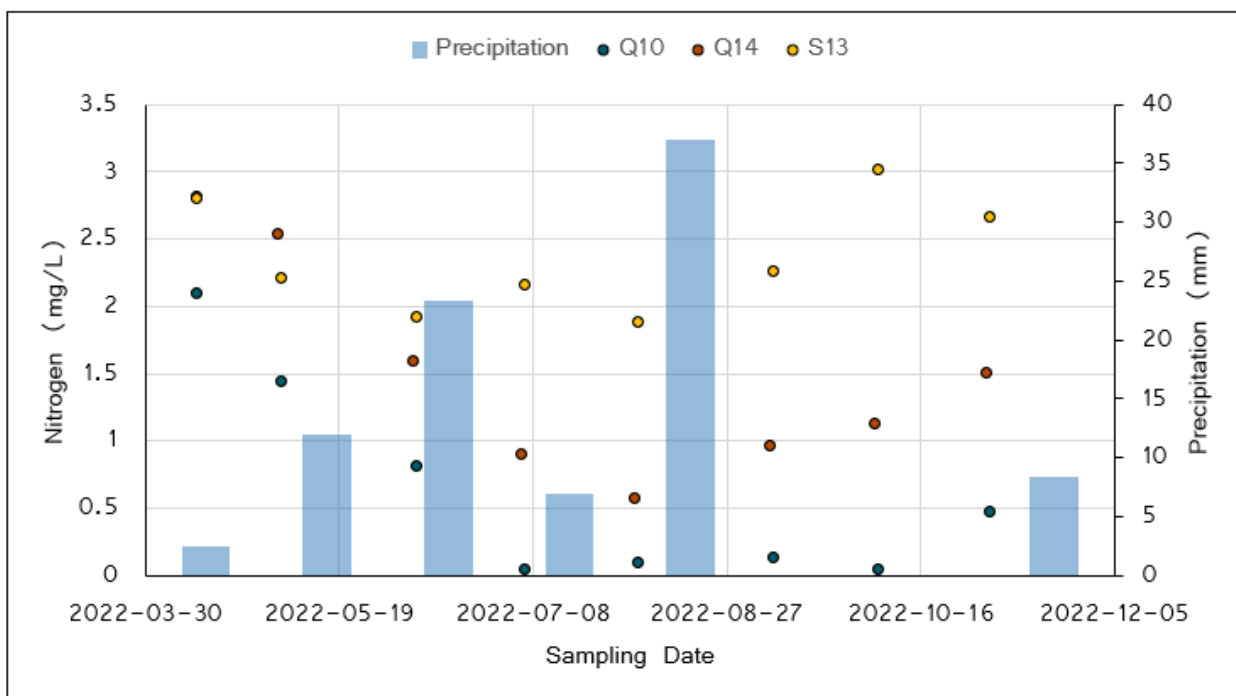


Figure 3: Nitrogen: nitrite- nitrate (mg/L) concentrations for sampling locations within the South Saugeen River sub-watershed in 2022. PWQO= 10 mg/L.

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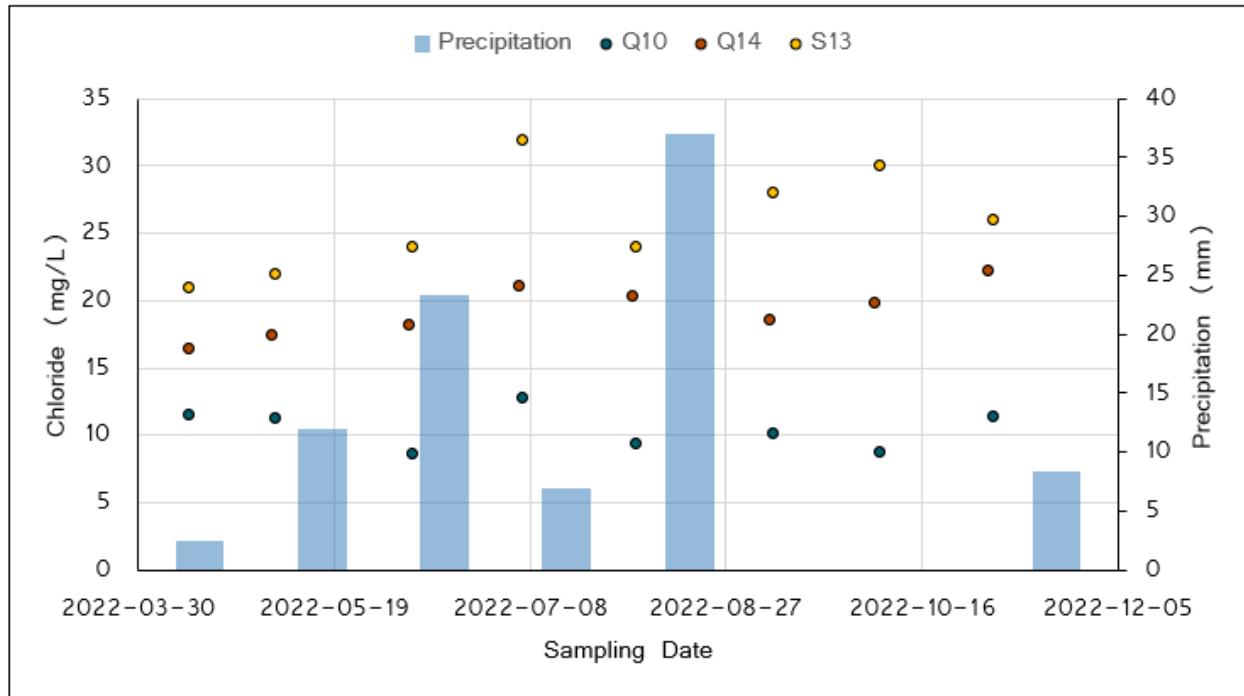


Figure 4: Chloride concentrations (mg/L) for all sampling locations within the South Saugeen River sub-watershed in 2022. CWQG= 120 mg/L.

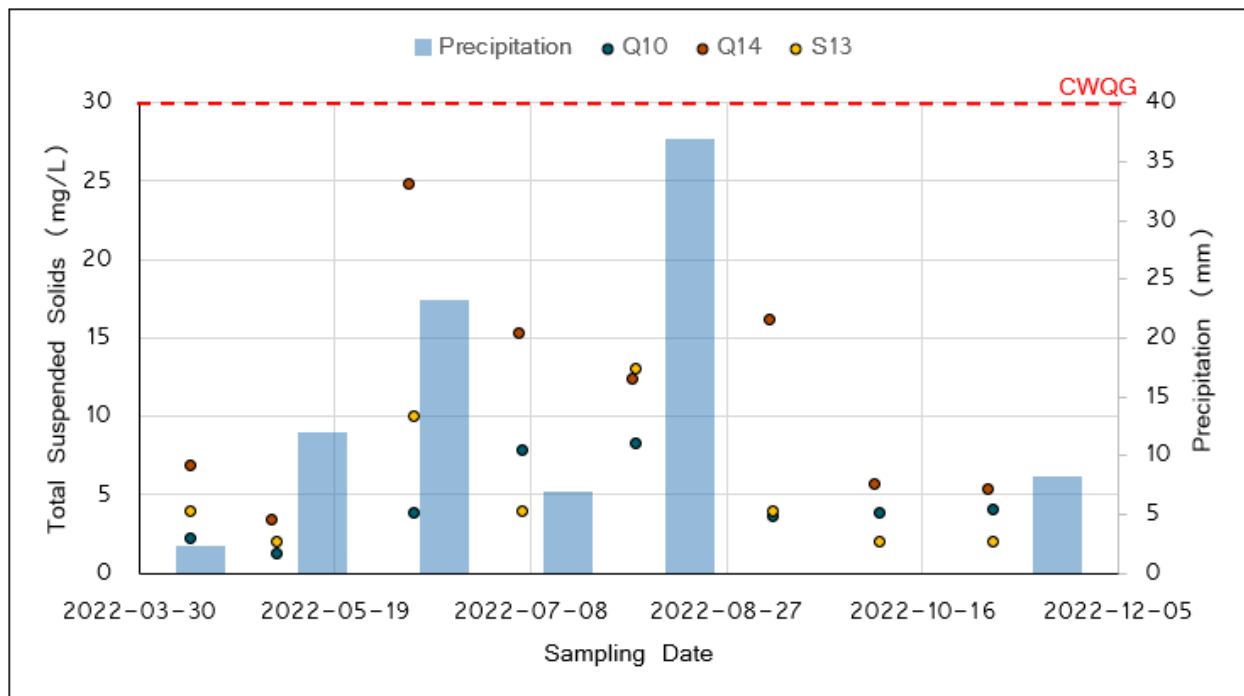


Figure 5: Total suspended solids concentrations (mg/L) for sampling locations within the South Saugeen River sub-watershed in 2022. CWQG = 30 mg/L.

Appendix D: This document is a draft only and is not intended for distribution. Data review and analysis is still on-going.

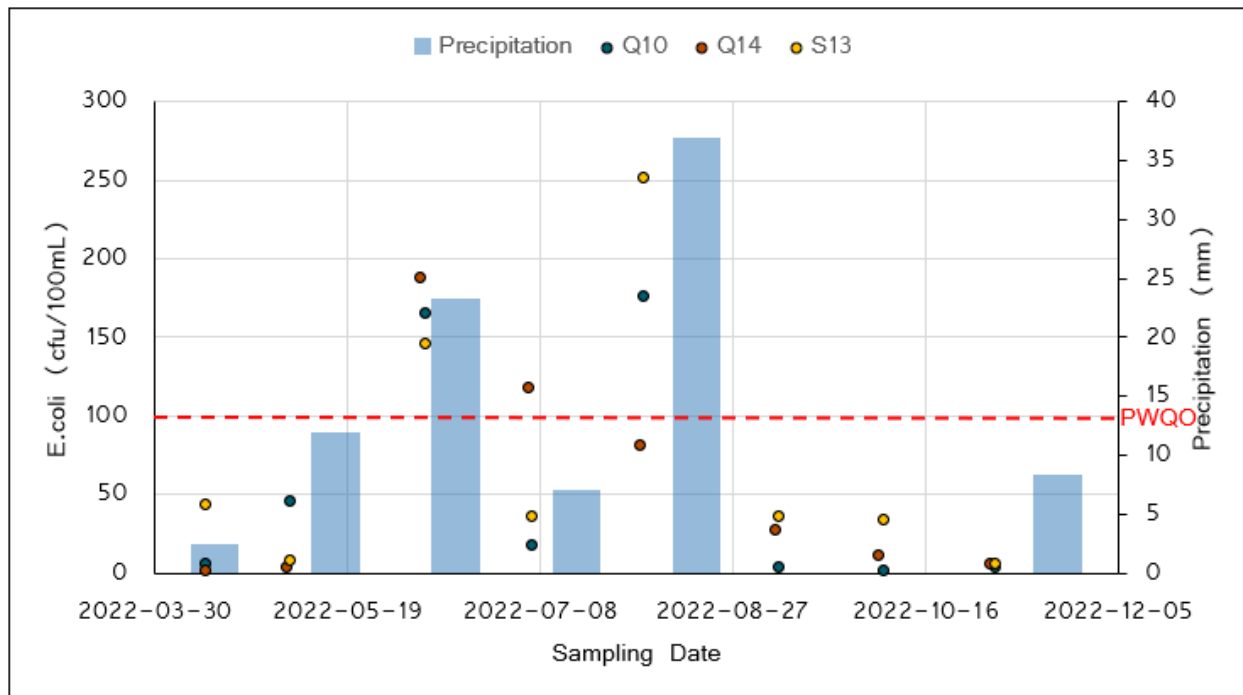


Figure 6: *E. coli* concentrations for sampling locations within the South Saugeen River sub-watershed in 2022. PWQO= 100 cfu/100mL

3.1.2 Surface Water - Long-term Results

Long-term findings within the South Saugeen River sub-watershed are similar to 2022 findings. Most parameters are generally well below water quality objectives, except for *E. coli* with 22% of sample results above. Phosphorus and total suspended solids also recorded a few exceedances (phosphorus – 5% and total suspended solids – 3% of samples)

There were no nitrogen or chloride exceedances between 2002 and 2022.

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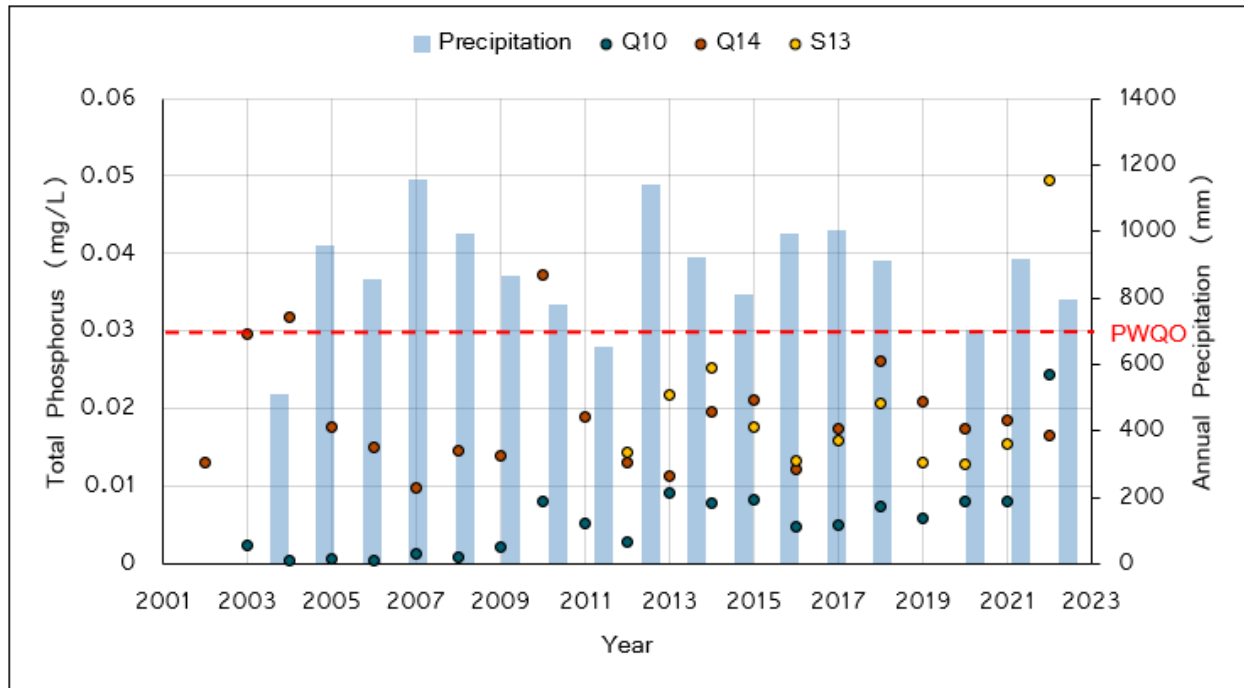


Figure 7.: Annual average phosphorus concentrations (mg/L) for sampling locations within the South Saugeen River sub- watershed from 2002 to 2022. SVCA internal sampling program began at S13 in 2012, no prior data available. PWQO= 0.03 mg/L.

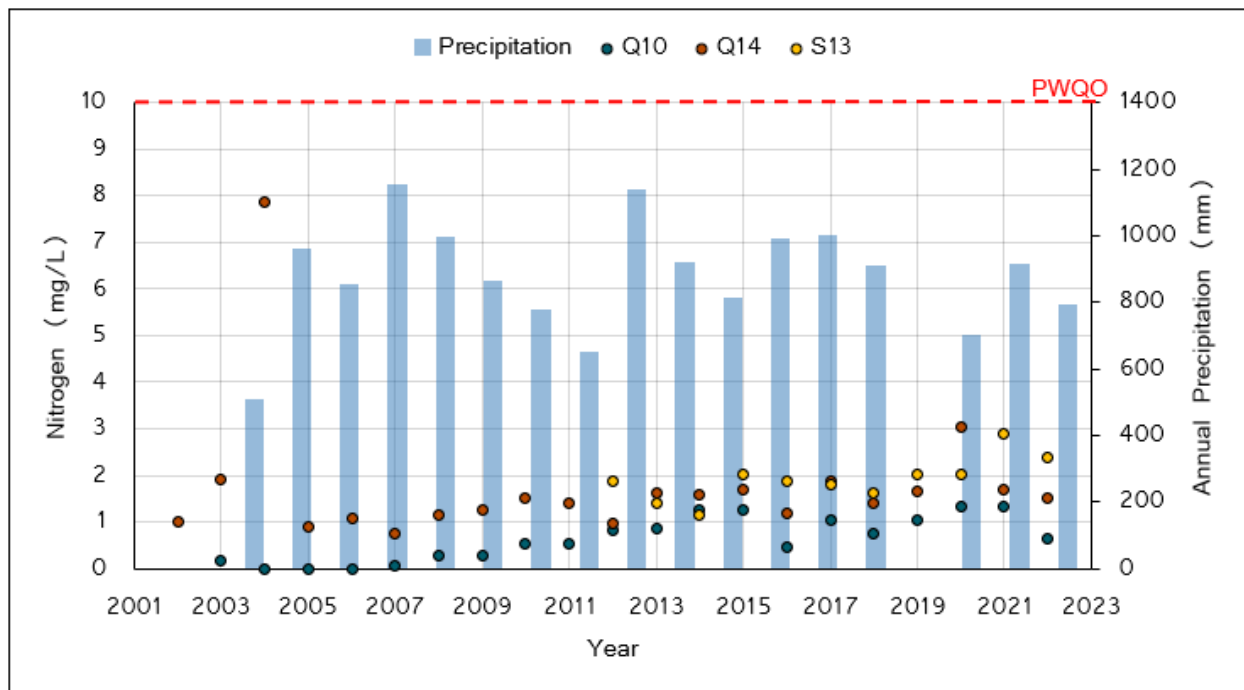


Figure 8: Annual average nitrogen: nitrate-nitrite concentrations (mg/L) for sampling locations within the South Saugeen River sub-watershed from 2002 to 2022. SVCA internal sampling program began at S13 in 2012, no prior data available. PWQO= 10 mg/L.

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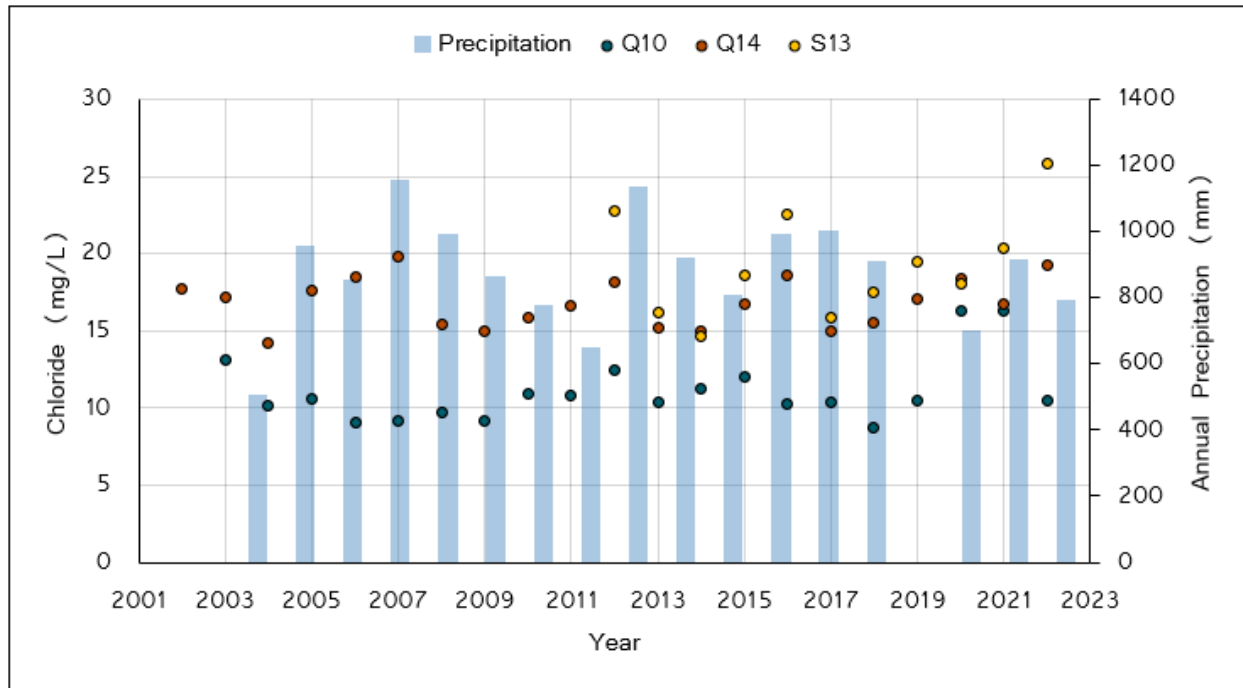


Figure 9: Annual average chloride concentrations (mg/L) for sampling locations within the South Saugeen River sub-watershed from 2002 to 2022. SVCA internal sampling program began at S13 in 2012, no prior data available. CWQG = 120 mg/L.

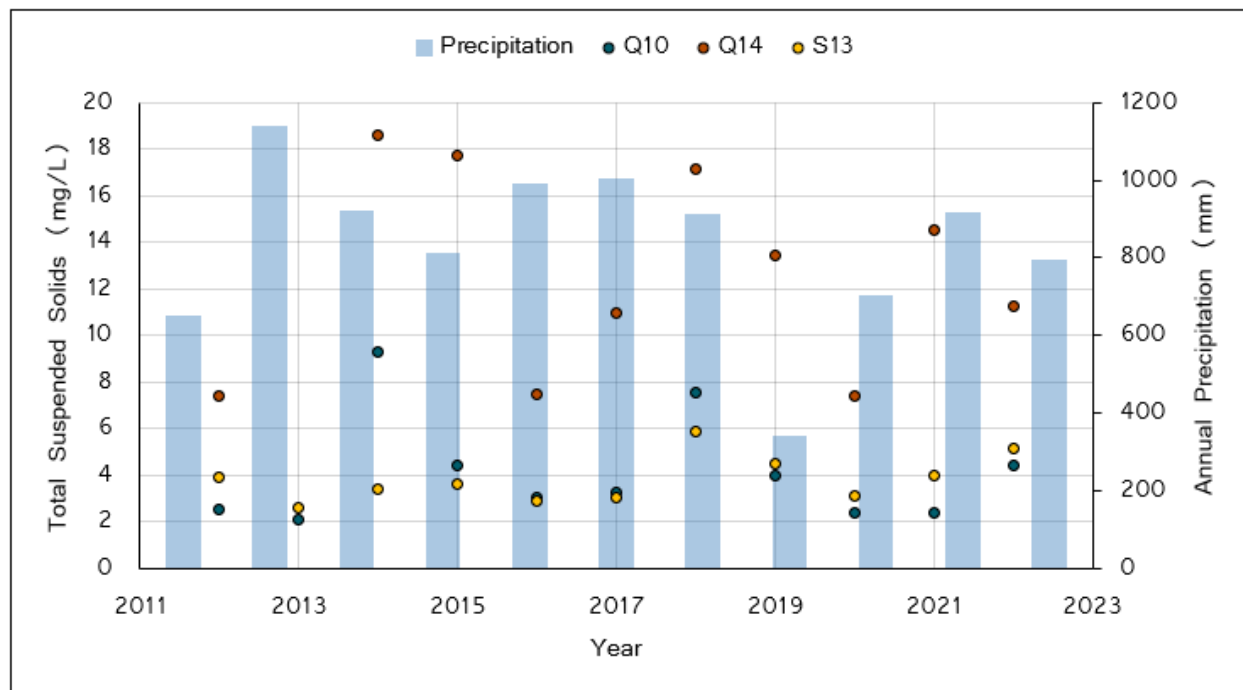


Figure 10: Total suspended solids concentrations (mg/L) for sampling locations within the South Saugeen River sub-watershed from 2002 to 2022. Analysis of TSS began in 2012, no prior data available. CWQG= 30 mg/L.

Appendix D: This document is a draft only and is not intended for distribution. Data review and analysis is still on-going.

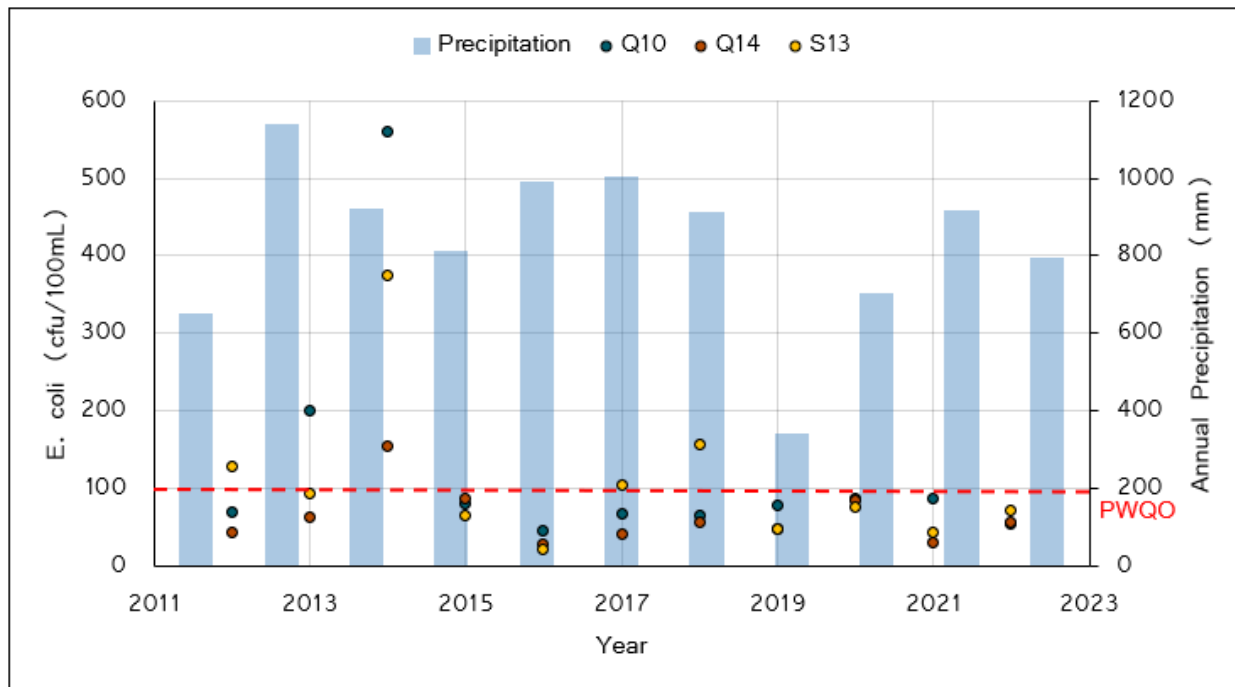


Figure 11: Annual average *E. coli* concentrations for all three sampling locations within the South Saugeen River sub-watershed from 2002 to 2022. No data prior to 2012 available. PWQO = 100 cfu/100mL.

Sample of historical data for one SVCA station:

Staff Report 7.2

Report To: Chair and Directors, Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority
From: Elise MacLeod, Manager, Water Resources
Date: July 20, 2023
Subject: Federal Hazard Identification and Mapping Program (FHIMP) – Budget Allocation
Purpose: To receive approval to increase SVCA FHIMP budgets to match municipal and grant funding contributions.

Recommendation

THAT the FHIMP Durham Creek flood hazard mapping project budget be approved up to \$50,000 plus HST; and

FURTHER THAT the FHIMP Town of Saugeen Shores flood hazard mapping project budget be approved up to \$80,000 plus HST.

Background

The following motion was carried at the May 18, 2023, SVCA Board of Directors meeting:

Motion #G23-47

Moved by Steve McCabe

Seconded by Kevin Eccles

THAT D.M. Wills Associates Limited be retained to complete flood hazard mapping for Durham Creek, in the Municipality of West Grey at a cost of \$45,530.00 plus HST; and

THAT Water's Edge Environmental Solutions Team Ltd. be retained to complete flood hazard mapping for eight (8) watercourses and one provisional watercourse in the Town of Saugeen Shores at a cost of \$63,217.50 plus HST; and

THAT Water's Edge Environmental Solutions Team Ltd. be retained to complete flood hazard mapping for six (6) watercourses, a portion of Clark's Creek and the entire Pine River in the Township of Huron-Kinloss at a cost of \$123,905 plus HST; and

THAT the additional \$73,905.00 plus HST, above FHIMP funding, be 100% contributed by the Township of Huron-Kinloss; and

FURTHER THAT \$20,000 for SVCA's contribution towards all three floodplain mapping projects for peer review services be drawn from deferred revenue.

In 2023, the following financial contributions were confirmed by respective Councils: Municipality of West Grey (\$25,000) and the Town of Saugeen Shores (\$40,000). These

contributions were matched through Federal Hazard Identification and Mapping Program funding.

The total project budget and awarded project costs are as follows:

Municipality	Council Approved Budget	SVCA Awarded Project Cost
Municipality of West Grey	\$50,000	\$45,530.00 plus HST
Town of Saugeen Shores	\$80,000	\$63,217.50 plus HST
Township of Huron-Kinloss	\$123,905.00 plus HST	\$123,905.00 plus HST

All three flood hazard mapping projects were awarded, and contracts executed following the May 18, 2023, SVCA Board of Directors meeting.

Discussion

Project initiation meetings have now been held for all three projects which detailed project methodology, scope, and budget specifics. Through these meetings it was identified that there may be opportunities to enhance the project scope to include additional modelling, in-depth analysis of flood spill areas, etc. Given this, SVCA staff are seeking approval to amend our approved FHIMP budget for the projects in the Municipality of West Grey and the Town of Saugeen Shores to an upset limit of \$50,000 and \$80,000 plus HST, respectively.

This authorization will allow staff to work within approved municipal budgets without having to seek additional Board approvals for minor project changes.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications for SVCA. The requested budget upset limit falls within municipal Council approved budgets.

Prepared by:

[Original signed by:]

Elise MacLeod, Manager, Water Resources

Approved by:

[Original signed by:]

Jennifer Stephens, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

Staff Report 8.1

Report To: Chair and Directors, Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority
From: Elise MacLeod, Manager, Water Resources
Date: July 20, 2023
Subject: Water Resources – Proposed Staffing Plan
Purpose: To request additional staffing support for the SVCA's Water Resources department

Recommendation

THAT the proposed Water Resources staffing plan be endorsed and incorporated into the 2024 SVCA budget.

Background

The SVCA's Water Resources department is comprised of three main programs, including Water Quality, Flood Forecasting and Warning, and Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure. These programs and current staffing complement are detailed in the attached organizational chart.

Discussion:

Over the past year, SVCA staff have thoroughly examined the state of each of the programs within the department. Through this exercise, staff have identified the significant need for additional staffing resources to complete daily tasks. The following three (3) positions are proposed, and are detailed further in the proposed organizational chart:

- *1 Water Resources Field Assistant (full time, summer student) – new position*

This position would be used to support all field activities which require a second person for health and safety reasons.

- *1 Water and Erosion Infrastructure Technician (full time, permanent) – modify existing contract position*

Staff propose to modify this position to a full time, permanent position to support infrastructure inspections, scheduling of maintenance activities, management of easements and assets, and project coordination.

- *1 Water Field Services Coordinator (full time, 3 year contract) – new position*

This position would lead all field maintenance activities on our water and erosion control infrastructure, including tree removals, inspection, painting, parging, electrical repairs, general inspections, debris removal, etc. This position is critical as current workloads do not allow for fulsome maintenance on these structures.

The above staffing recommendations are critical to ensure proper maintenance and documentation of SVCA's infrastructure. The proposed positions would allow for a more robust inspection and reporting process for our assets.

SVCA Water Resources Committee passed the following motion at the July 7, 2023 meeting:

Motion WR23-23

Moved by: Gregory McLean

Seconded by: Dave Myette

THAT the SVCA Water Resources Committee recommend to the Board of Directors that the proposed staffing plan be endorsed.

Financial Implications

The following financial implications are anticipated should the above positions be supported:

- 1 Water Resources Field Assistant (full time, contract) - \$15,000 annually
- 1 Water and Erosion Infrastructure Technician (full time, permanent) - \$80,000 annually
- 1 Water Field Services Coordinator (full time, 3-year contract) - \$100,000 annually

The above estimates include consideration for expenses related to benefits and OMERS. The \$80,000 expense for the Water and Erosion Infrastructure Technician has already been included in the SVCA budget for the last 1.5 years from reserves.

Should the above staff positions not be approved, additional funding will be required to outsource these activities, where possible. It should be noted, however, that not all activities can be outsourced and will require significant support from existing staff.

Prepared by:

[Original signed by:]

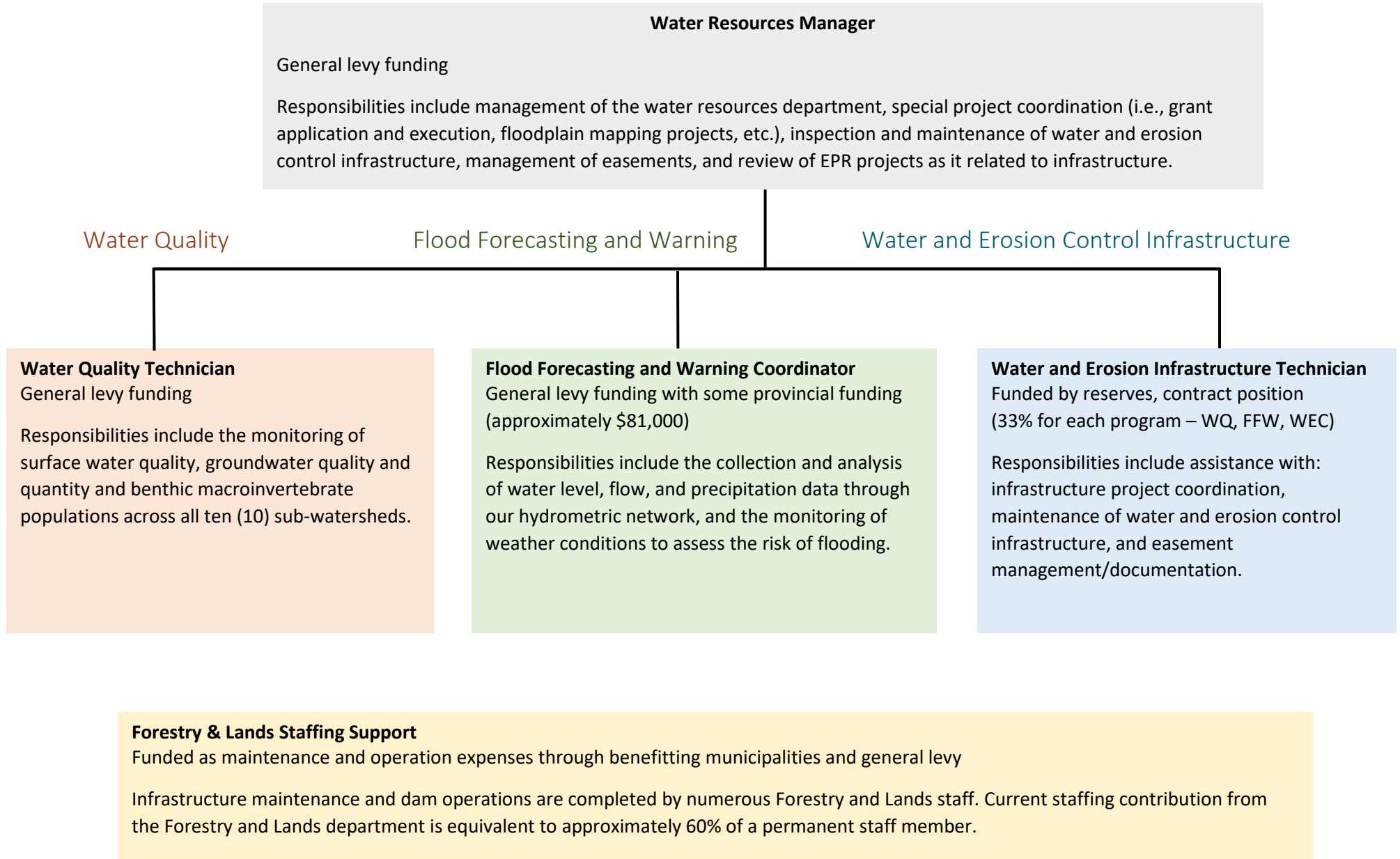
Elise MacLeod, Manager, Water Resources

Approved by:

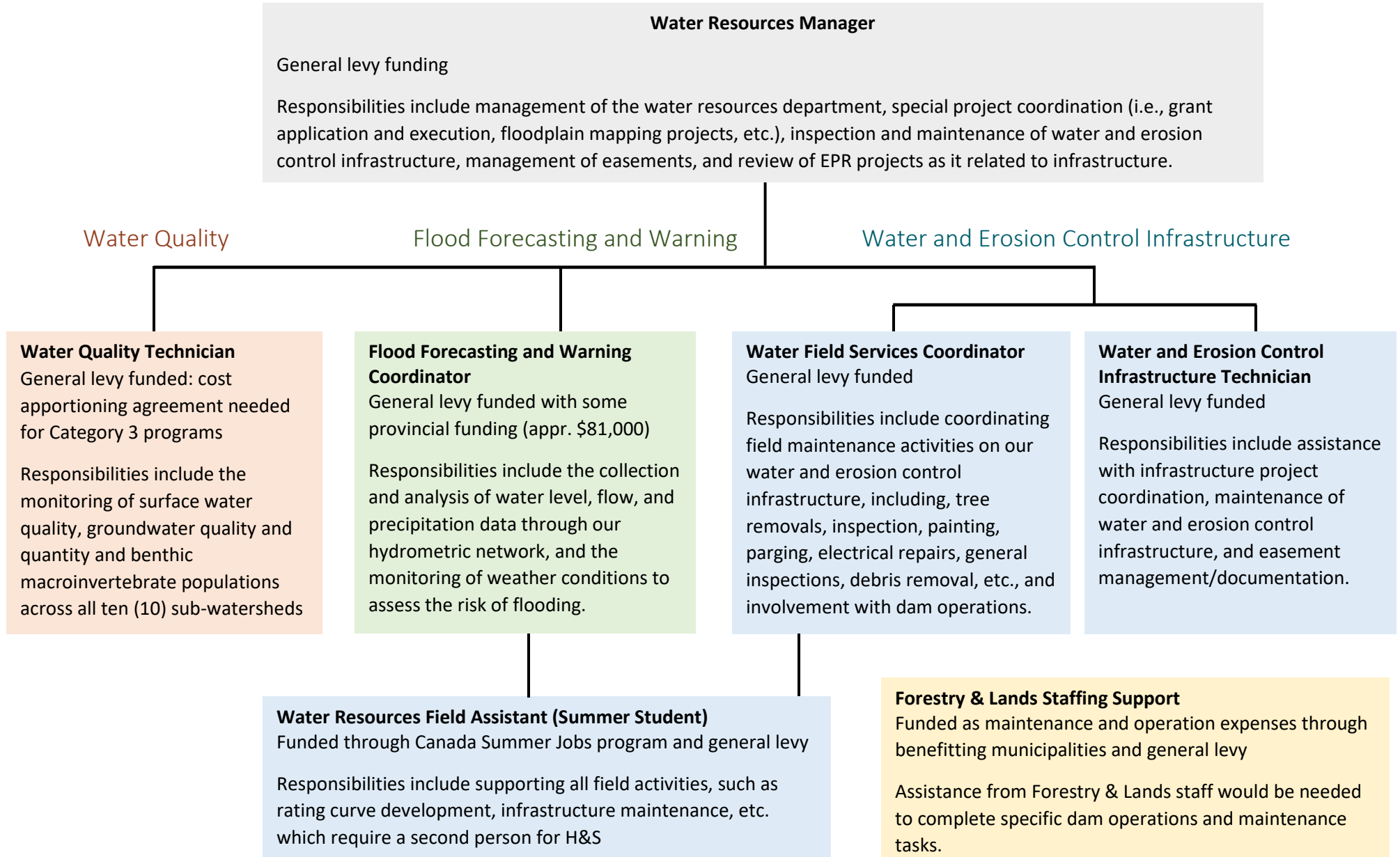
[Original signed by:]

Erik Downing, Acting General Manager / Secretary-Treasurer

2023 Water Resources Organizational Chart – Existing Staff Complement



2024 Proposed Water Resources Organizational Chart



Report 8.2

Report To: Chair and Directors, Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority
From: Elise MacLeod, Manager, Water Resources
Date: July 20, 2023
Subject: Participation in NWMO's Environmental Media Baseline Monitoring Program
Purpose: To obtain support to participate in Year 3 of the NWMO's Environmental Media Baseline Monitoring Program

Recommendation

WHEREAS Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority entered into a Service Level Agreement to complete years one and two of the NWMO's Environmental Media Baseline Monitoring (EMBP) Program (water quality and hydrology components);

BE IT RESOLVED THAT SVCA staff are directed to enter into a renewed scope of work for NWMO EMBP Year 3, January to December 2024; and

FURTHER THAT staff are authorized to hire the necessary staff to carry out the work, as specified in the renewed scope of work, provided that no costs are borne by the Authority.

Background

For the past two years, SVCA has entered into Service Level Agreements with the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) to carry out the surface water and hydrology components of the Environmental Media Baseline Monitoring Program (South Bruce site). This work has been completed on a fee-for-service basis.

The work under this program includes conducting seasonal water quality monitoring and samples; installation and monitoring of hydrologic equipment; and hydrological field data collection on lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands. Some components of the hydrology work have also been sub-contracted to a third-party consultant through SVCA.

There is potential to continue or revise the Scope of Work on a year-by-year basis for up to 3 additional years in accordance with the Terms and Conditions as outlined in the Service Level Agreement.

Under Section 21(1)(a) of the Conservation Authorities Act, an authority has power to research, study, and investigate the watershed and support the development and implementation of programs and services intended to further the purposes of the Act. The work being carried out through the NWMO EMBP expands our knowledge of the Teeswater subwatershed.

Discussion

Year 3 of the surface water program will include the collection of phytoplankton and zooplankton samples from lakes, and periphyton (algae) from riverine samples sites. More in-depth knowledge of the algal communities in the Teeswater subwatershed could enhance our understanding of nutrient runoff. Further, benthic macroinvertebrates and sediment quality will also be assessed.

The renewed scope of work would include the continuation of water quality and hydrological data collection. NWMO has been supportive of its relationship thus far with SVCA, recognizing our ability to carry out monitoring activities as part of our day-to-day business.

Financial Implications

No costs will be borne by the Authority to engage in the NWMO's EMBP for Year 3, as our services will be funded, in their entirety, by NWMO.

Prepared by:

[Original signed by:]

Elise MacLeod, Manager, Water Resources

Approved by:

[Original signed by:]

Erik Downing

Acting General Manager / Secretary-Treasurer

Report 8.3

Report To: Chair and Directors, Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority
From: Erik Downing, Manager, Environmental Planning and Regulations
Date: July 20, 2023
Subject: Request for Endorsement: Permits Issued
Purpose: To seek endorsement for permits issued pursuant to Ontario Regulation 169/06, as amended

Recommendation

THAT the Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourse applications (23-084 - 23-179, save 23-158, 23-150), pursuant to Ontario Regulation 169/06, as approved by staff, be endorsed.

Background

Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA) staff issue permits in accordance with SVCA policies and then present them to the Board for endorsement at each Authority meeting.

The list below indicates the permits that have been issued in the month of March and April 2023.

Permit #	Location	Address	Proposed Works	Permit Type
23-179	Minto	5652 14th Line, Pt Lot 70, Con C	Completion of fill placement and grading associated with creation of a yard for a new shed.	Regulated Area
23-178	Carrick	80 Schaefer Road, Lot 16, Con D	Completion of a bottom-only cleanout of the Formosa Creek Municipal Drain - Carrick Branch.	Watercourse
23-177	Normanby	042143 Road 71, Pt Lots 69 and 70, Con 3	To construct a 4000 square foot shop and 528 square foot garage; to demolish and construct a 155 square foot mudroom; and to construct covered and uncovered decks; with related excavation, filling, and grading.	Regulated Area
23-176	Culross	No Civic Address, Bruce Road 12 and 282 Con 12, Pt Lots 31 and 32, Con A	Alteration of a watercourse consisting of bottom-only cleanout of a section of a tributary of Formosa Creek and	Watercourse

Permit #	Location	Address	Proposed Works	Permit Type
			installation of systematic farm tile drainage.	
23-175	Proton	733081 Southgate Sideroad 73, Lts 196-197, Con 2 SWTSR	Installation of systematic farm drainage tile with outlet to a watercourse. Multiple edits to tile plan required.	Regulated Area
23-174	Greenock	Bruce Rd 15 – See Schedule 2 in Permit	To replace a 1050 millimetre diameter CSP culvert with a HDPE culvert of the same size, with related excavation, filling and grading.	Watercourse
23-173	Bentinck	401320 Grey Road 4, Pt Lot 16, Con 1 SDR, RP 17R1479 Part 3	To construct a 2748 square foot two-storey dwelling, with an attached two car garage, covered and uncovered decks, and driveway; and replace a 400 millimetre diameter, 9 metre long, driveway CSP culvert with a 450 millimetre diameter, 9 metre long driveway CSP culvert; with related excavation, filling, and grading.	Regulated Area
23-172	Greenock	Two Locations on Bruce Rd 15 – See Schedule 2 in Permit	To replace a 450 millimetre diameter CSP culvert and a 375 millimetre diameter CSP culvert with HDPE culverts of the same size, with related excavation, filling and grading.	Regulated Area
23-171	Normanby	Structure 189 - A Tributary of Beatty Saugeen River on Sideroad 25, E Pt Lot 26, Con 13	To replace a 4.2 metre wide by 6.1 metre long, concrete open footing culvert with twin 2.2 metre diameter by 10 metre long, polymer laminated CSPs; and install a 22.5 metre steel sheet pile wall; with related excavation, filling, and grading.	Watercourse
23-170	Bentinck	422555 15th Sideroad WGR, Pt Lots 34 and 35. Con 3 WGR	The construction of a 2450 square foot dwelling with related grading, filling, and excavation within the adjacent lands to the McLean Lake	Regulated Area

Permit #	Location	Address	Proposed Works	Permit Type
			Provincially Significant Wetland and its associated hazardous lands.	
23-169	Mildmay	unassigned civic address, Jane Street S., Part 1 Plan 3R10566	Excavation, filling, and grading for construction of access road and SWM pond for proposed townhouse development, all within the adjacent lands to part of the floodplain of Filsinger Municipal Drain.	Regulated Area
23-168	Glenelg	564060 Glenelg-Holland Townline, Pt Lot 12, Con 15	The construction of a 2722 square foot dwelling and reconstruction of a 300 square foot bunkie with related grading, filling, and excavation partially within the adjacent lands to the Bells Lake Provincially Significant Wetland and its associated hazardous lands.	Regulated Area
23-167	Brant	186 Lake Rosalind Road 1, Pt Lot 33, Con 4	To demolish and construct a like-for-like 6.85 metre by 4.87 metre boathouse with decks and stairs; to replace tiered dry stacked flagstone and stone retaining walls with tiered armour stone retaining walls; and to replace a 12.19 metre by 4.87 metre flagstone patio with 12.19 metre by 4.87 metre interlocking paver patio, with related excavation, filling and grading.	Watercourse
23-166	Greenock	3747 Highway 9, Lot C Lot 20, Con 1 SDR	The construction of a xxx square foot dwelling and xxx square foot detached shop with related grading, filling, and excavation partially within the adjacent lands to the Greenock Swamp Provincially Significant Wetland Complex and its associated hazardous lands.	Regulated Area

Permit #	Location	Address	Proposed Works	Permit Type
23-165	Walkerton	107 Elgin Street, Plan 9, Park Lot 3 Part 1	Construction of a 24-foot by 16-foot detached garage and related excavation, filling and grading, all within the adjacent lands to the floodplain and valley slope of Silver Creek.	Regulated Area
23-164	Grey Highlands (Municipality)	Johnston's Side Road, Pt Lots 17 and 17, Con 11 S	To replace an existing laneway and install two 18-inch HDPE culverts with related excavation, filling and grading.	Watercourse
23-163	Brant	184 Lake Rosalind Road 1, Pt Lot 33, Con 4	To demolish and construct a like-for-like 22-foot by 12-foot boathouse and deck, with related excavation.	Watercourse
23-162	Kincardine Town	1045 Sutton Street, Pt Lot 62 and 63, Plan 4	To complete site grading to improve drainage away from a dwelling.	Regulated Area
23-161	Brant	973 Concession 2 SDR, Pt Lots 29 to 31, Con 3 SDR	To construct 30-foot by 32-foot detached garage, with related excavation, filling and grading.	Regulated Area
23-160	Hanover	252 14th Street, Lots 77 to 81	To construct a sound barrier wall, with related excavation.	Regulated Area
23-159	Arran-Elderslie (Municipality)	14 Ross St N RR#3, NOG 2N0, Lot 28	Construct a 1080 square foot detached two door garage, with related, excavation, filling, and grading.	Regulated Area
23-157	Kincardine Town	Part of Lot 17, Concession A	Watercourse relocation, construction of an on-line stormwater management pond and outlet, and site grading for new lot development.	Regulated Area; Watercourse
23-156	Artemesia	Johnston's Side Road, Pt Lots 16 and 17, Con 11 S	To install systematic tile drainage and level out the hill north of the driveway with related grading and excavation.	Regulated Area
23-155	Bruce	430 Sunset Drive, Part Lot 59 Concession A, Part 2 Plan 3R4085	Site alteration and vegetation removal, construction of a detached accessory building (garage), installation of sewage disposal system, relocation of existing bunkie, and related excavation, filling, and grading,	Regulated Area

Permit #	Location	Address	Proposed Works	Permit Type
			all within 120 metres of part of MacGregor Point Wetland Complex Provincially Significant Wetlands (PSW).	
23-154	Artemesia	773599 Highway 10, Pt Lot 172, Lot 173, Con 1 NETSR	The construction of a 6012 square foot barn and dry manure storage area, 2690 square foot workshop, 807 square foot power room, all with the related grading, filling, and excavation within the adjacent lands to the Portlaw Fen Provincially Significant Wetland its associated tributaries and hazardous lands.	Regulated Area
23-153	Huron	767 Victoria Road, RP 3R4203 Parts 12 and 14; Part Lot 10 Concession A	The construction of mud room and garage additions to the existing dwelling, reconstruction of west side deck, and extension of west side roof to the existing dwelling, and related excavation, filling, and grading, all within the adjacent lands to dynamic beach.	Regulated Area
23-152	Minto	5296 13th Line, Lot 36, Con 13	Construction of a new detached residence, shop and septic system and associated excavation, filling, and grading.	Regulated Area
23-151	Saugeen	North Shore Road shoreline between #31 and #53 Fenton Drive, and #68 and #82 North Shore Road	To replace 319 linear metres of armour stone shore revetment, with related excavation and grading.	Watercourse
23-149	Holland	683044 Chatsworth Road 24	To construct a 49.3 square metre greenhouse with related excavation, filling and grading.	Regulated Area
23-148	Egremont	144349 Southgate Road 14, Lot 19, Con 14	Construction of a new 10, 500 sq. ft. pig barn and associated excavation, filling and grading.	Regulated Area

Permit #	Location	Address	Proposed Works	Permit Type
23-147	Sullivan	249 McCullough Lake Drive	To construct a dwelling with attached covered decks, a detached garage, a sewage disposal system, and a driveway, with related excavation, filling and grading.	Regulated Area
23-146	Carrick	Concession C and Side Road 35, Lot 20, Con 6 and Lots 35 & 36, Con C	Alteration of a watercourse including installation of fibre optic cable by plow and directional bore on a tributary of Otter Creek.	Watercourse
23-145	Saugeen	319 Carlisle St NOH 2LO Southampton Park Lot 12, Lot 13	Construct a 576 square foot garage, with related, excavation, filling, and grading.	Regulated Area
23-144	Bentinck	Unassigned civic address, Boyd Lake Road, Lot 35, Plan 1097	Construction of a dwelling with attached garage, installation of a sewage disposal system and laneway, and related excavation, filling, and grading, all within 120 metres of part of the Louise, Boyd, McDonald Lakes Provincially Significant Wetland.	Regulated Area
23-143	Normanby	233022 Concession 2 WGR, Pt Lot 6, Con 3 WGR, RP 16R6860 PARTS 1 TO 3	To demolish a dwelling; to construct a dwelling with an attached two car garage, covered porch, covered and uncovered decks and gazebo; to construct a shop; to construct a driveway; and to remove and install a sewage disposal system, with related excavation, filling and grading.	Regulated Area
23-142	Saugeen	Part Lots 10 to 12, Concession 7; RP 3R570, Part 1	Site grading restoration works to the storm pond inlet and outlet.	Regulated Area
23-141	Greenock	No Civic Address, Concession 6, Lot 21, Con 6-7	To replace a 3700mm diameter, 8 metre long, multi-plate CSPA culvert and concrete footings, with a 3 metre by 2.4 metre, 13	Watercourse

Permit #	Location	Address	Proposed Works	Permit Type
			metre long, concrete box culvert and 150mm thick reinforced concrete transfer slab; to replace a 900mm diameter, 10 metre long CSP culvert, with a 900mm diameter, 14 metre long CSP culvert; to construct four 2.4 metre long, precast concrete block retaining walls; to install 1.52 metre long sheet pile cutoff walls; and to remove a gabion basket wall, with related excavation, filling and grading.	
23-140	Bentinck	133438 Allan Park Road, Pt Lot 39, Con 1NDR	To construct three, 37.21 square metre concrete pads to support satellite antennas and radomes, and to create a 50 metre by 5 metre overland drainage swale that outlets into a watercourse, with related excavation, filling and grading.	Regulated Area
23-139	Walkerton	Yonge Street South Between Durham Street and Jackson Street South	To reconstruct Yonge Street South and complete related works to watermains, sanitary and storm sewers, sidewalks, curbs, and retaining walls, with related excavation, filling and grading. Jennifer Stephens signed.	Regulated Area
23-138	Grey Highlands (Municipality) ; Osprey	South Line B	To remove two existing 750mm CSP culverts and replace them with two 750mm HDPE culverts, with related filling, excavation and grading.	Watercourse
23-137	Grey Highlands (Municipality) ; Artemesia	Melancthon-Artemesia Townline	To remove an existing 500mm CSP culvert and replace it with a 600mm HDPE culvert, with related excavation and grading.	Watercourse
23-136	Grey Highlands (Municipality)	Melancthon – Artemesia Townline, Road 140	To replace two 450mm CSP culverts with two 600mm HDPE culverts, with related excavation, filling and grading.	Regulated Area

Permit #	Location	Address	Proposed Works	Permit Type
23-135	Kincardine Town	1494 Highway 21, Part Lots 1 & 2 Concession 2SDR, Part 2 Plan 3R-8758	Site alteration of excavation, filling, and grading, including stormwater management outlet to North Penetangore River, all for development of a hotel building (part of phase 1 works); all within and in the lands adjacent to the North Penetangore River Valley.	Regulated Area
23-134	Egremont	Southgate Road 12, 150 metres and 1.55 kilometres east of Southgate Side Road 55, Pt Lot 19, Con 11 and Lot 16, Pt Lot 17, Con 12	Watercourse alteration consisting of the replacement of existing concrete box culvert crossings S97 and S98 with triple culvert crossings.	Watercourse
23-133	Southampton	68 Knechtel Lane, Part Lots 15-16, W Victoria St	The alteration of a lot with the associated excavation, filling, and grading works partially within the floodplain of the Saugeen River. The works are to incorporate the floodproofing designs submitted on behalf of the landowner by GM BluePlan Engineering to allow for future development outside of the floodplain.	Regulated Area
23-132	Normanby	6724 Highway 89, Pt Lot 75, Con B	The installation of a parking and storage pad with related grading, filling, and excavation within the floodplain of an unnamed tributary associated with the South Saugeen River.	Regulated Area
23-131	Kincardine Township	633 Concession 7, Part Lot 20 Concession 6	Relocation of a detached garage from 636 Concession 7 to 633 Concession 7, and related excavation, filling, and grading, all within the adjacent lands to part of the North Penetangore River valley.	Regulated Area

Permit #	Location	Address	Proposed Works	Permit Type
23-130	Saugeen	Part of Lots 10-12, Concession 7	Site alteration and grading associated with new lot development, and the construction of a stormwater management pond and outlet works.	Regulated Area
23-129	Durham	136 Bruce St North, Park Pt Lot 7	To construct a dwelling with an attached garage and covered porch, with related floodproofing, excavation, filling, and grading.	Regulated Area
23-128	Artemesia	Vacant Lot, Lakewood Lane, Roll No. 420818000419519	The construction of a 2751 square foot dwelling with attached garage with related excavation, filling, and grading partially within the adjacent lands to other wetlands and the floodplain of Irish Lake.	Regulated Area
23-127	Normanby	112313 Grey Road 3, Part Lot 16, Concession 13	Construction of a 36-foot by 36-foot storage shed, and related excavation, filling and grading, all within the adjacent lands to the floodplain of an unnamed watercourse.	Regulated Area
23-126	Southampton	RP 3r_2945, Parts 1 & 2, Town of Saugeen Shores, Geographic Town of Southampton	Reconstruction and addition to the Southampton Seniors Care Centre.	Regulated Area
23-125	Artemesia	313117 Side Road 35 Pt Lot 71, Con 2 NDR	To install systematic tile drainage with related grading and excavation.	Regulated Area
23-124	Artemesia	385115 4th Concession A, Lot 3 Con 5	Remove an existing 450mm CSP culvert and replace it with a 600 mm HDPE culvert related excavation and grading.	Watercourse
23-123	Artemesia	4th Concession A	To remove an existing 450mm CSP culvert and replace it with a 600 mm HDPE culvert related excavation and grading.	Regulated Area
23-122	Saugeen	Near 1383 Bruce-Saugeen	To remove an existing 600mm CSP culvert and replace it with a	Regulated Area

Permit #	Location	Address	Proposed Works	Permit Type
		Townline, Pt lot 14, Con 1	600mm HDPE culvert with related excavation and grading.	
23-121	Sullivan	249 McCullough Lake Drive	To demolish a dwelling and detached garage, and to remove a wooden retaining wall and staircase, with related excavation, filling and grading.	Regulated Area
23-120	Culross	Near 950, 1047, 1081, 1252, 1422, 1504, and 1558 Con Rd 4, Con A Pt Lt 11 Pt Rd Allow, Con 4 Pt Lt 1 & Pt Rd, Con 4 Lt 2, Con 5 S Pt Lt 6, Con 5 Lt 10, Con 5 Lt 12 and Con 5 Pt Lt 13 RP 3R1759;Pt 1	Watercourse alteration including the installation of fibre optic cable by directional bore under the Teeswater River and various tributaries on Con Rd 4 between Bruce Rd 12 and Bruce Rd 4 by directional bore associated with Belmore Construction Phase 2.	Regulated Area; Watercourse
23-119	Carrick; Culross	Near 266, 306, and 480 Bruce Rd 12, Con A PT Lt 7, Con A Lt 8 and Con A Lt 12	Alteration of a watercourse including installation of fibre optic cable by directional bore under the Teeswater River associated with Belmore Construction Phase 2.	Regulated Area; Watercourse
23-118	Carrick; Culross	Near Park, 75 and 114 Bruce Rd 12, Plan 51 Pt Park Lt RP;3R1367 Part 4, Con A Pt Lt 2 RP 3R1493;Pt 1 and Con A Lt 3 Pt Lt 4	Alteration of a watercourse including installation of fibre optic cable by directional bore under tributaries of Belmore Creek associated with Belmore Construction Phase 2.	Regulated Area; Watercourse

Prepared by:
[Original Signed by:]
Erik Downing
Manager, Environmental Planning and Regulations

Approved by:
[Original Signed by:]
Jennifer Stephens
General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

Staff Report 8.4

To: SVCA Board of Directors
From: Brandi Walter, Environmental Planning Coordinator
Date: July 20, 2023
Subject: Section 28 Permit Application: Proposed Southampton Seniors Care Facility SVCA Permit Application Number 23-126
Purpose: Applicant seeking approval for a 60 month permit to alter a Regulated Area

Recommendation

THAT the SVCA Board of Directors approve permit application number 23-126 for reconstruction of the Southampton Seniors Care Centre, including construction of a new building, and to carry out associated excavation, filling, and grading in the one-zone regulatory floodplain.

AND THAT the SVCA Board of Directors approve permit application 23-126 with conditions noted on Schedule 2 of the attached draft permit.

AND FURTHER THAT the Board of Directors approve permit application number 23-126 for a validity period of 60 months.

Background

Ontario Regulation 169/06: Permission to Develop

In accordance with Section 3 (1) of Ontario Regulation 169/06, the Authority may grant permission for development, with or without conditions if, in its opinion, the control of flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches, pollution or the conservation of land will not be affected by the development. The Board has designated the powers and duties of the Authority to the General Manager, and EPR Manager with respect to granting permissions for development permitted under Section 3 (3) of the Regulation. However, subject to Section 3 (4), a designate under subsection (3) shall not grant permission for development with a maximum period of validity of more than 24 months.

Period of validity of Permissions

As per Section 9 (1) of O. Regulation 169/06, the maximum period for which a SVCA permit may be valid is:

- (a) 24 months, in the case of a permission granted for projects other than projects described in clause (b); and

- (b) 60 months, in the case of a permission granted for,
 - (i) projects that, in the opinion of the Authority or its executive committee, cannot reasonably be completed within 24 months from the day the permission is granted, or
 - (ii) projects that require permits or approvals from other regulatory bodies that, in the opinion of the Authority or its executive committee, cannot reasonably be obtained within 24 months from the day permission is granted.

Permit Application

In March 2018, SVCA issued permit number 18-030 for the renovation and expansion of the existing seniors care building, including the construction of a stormwater management pond. Permit 18-030 was valid from March 2018 to March 2020 (24 months); however, no work was undertaken during this time.

In accordance with Ontario Regulation 169/06, an extension to a 24-month permit is not permitted, and as such, re-application for the project is required. The client re-submitted their permit application on September 20, 2022; however, due to staff's request for additional technical information and on-going correspondence over several months (common for technically complicated files), the permit application could not be deemed complete until May 9, 2023.

For this permit application, Southampton Care Centre Inc. has applied for the re-construction of the Southampton Long-Term Care Centre located at 140 Grey Street in the Town of Southampton. Currently, the property contains one building used as a senior's care centre. The applicant proposes to construct a stormwater management pond and a new building in Phase 1 of the development, and in Phase 2 of the development, the existing building is proposed to be reconstructed. It is anticipated that the construction may take up to 5 years (60 months) to complete.

SVCA staff and the applicant agreed the proposed construction could not reasonably be completed within a 24-month period, and as such, the applicant is applying for a 60-month permit.

A copy of the application and site plan are attached.

Site Description

The subject property fronts Grenville Street South to the east, Spence Street to the south, and Grey Street South to the west. Access to the existing building is off Grey Street South. The landscaped property features an existing building and parking lot used for a long-term senior's care centre that encompasses approximately ½ the property. The remainder of property is vacant. There is a roadside drain north of Spence Street, where the Hurricane Hazel Flood Event (HHFE) has been modelled and mapped. The existing building and portions of the parking lot are located within the HHFE floodplain associated with the Spence Street drain.

SVCA Regulated Area

In accordance with Ontario Regulation 169/06, SVCA regulates proposed development and site alterations within the HHFE floodplain plus 15 metres adjacent to the floodplain. A map of SVCA's Regulated Area affecting the property is attached. The floodplain in Southampton is managed as a one-zone floodplain, where the entirety of the floodplain is considered floodway.

Permit Application Review

The existing building, property, and parking lot are subject to an average flood depth of 0.136 metres with a max flood depth near the existing Grey Street South entrance of 0.6 metres during a Hurricane Hazel Flood Event (HHFE).

Technical studies submitted in support of the permit application demonstrate proposed buildings will be floodproofed, there will be dry, safe access, and there will be no increased erosion and no impact on flood elevations/limits on adjacent lands, including municipal roads and adjacent private properties. To achieve no increase in flooding on adjacent lands, the applicant proposes the cut and fill method for development, where the loss of flood storage from building is compensated by stormwater management and lot grading.

SVCA's Environmental Planning and Regulations Policies

Development and site alteration in the one-zone floodplain is generally prohibited with some exceptions where the impact to the control of flooding, erosion, pollution and the conservation of land is negligible. For the development to be supported by SVCA's Board approved 'Environmental Planning and Regulation' policies within the one-zone regulatory floodplain, the following conditions must be met:

1. The building must be existing and not damaged or destroyed by flooding,
2. The building cannot be relocated to an area outside the flooding hazard and there is no feasible alternative site that is located in an area of least risk,
3. The building must be dry floodproofed,
4. No increase in footprint or habitable space is proposed,
5. Access/egress (i.e., safe access) shall remain dry for institutional buildings servicing the sick, elderly, disabled or the young; and that,
6. It must be demonstrated there will be no impact on the control of flooding, erosion, pollution, or the conservation of land from the development.

Based on staff's review of supporting technical information, the permit application to alter a regulated area meets above conditions 1, 2, 5, and 6, in general; however, the applicant proposes an increase in both habitable space and footprint, thereby, not meeting condition no. 4. Nevertheless, it is staff's opinion, the proposed development would decrease the risk to public safety because the new development will be floodproofed and will have dry, safe access, which is an improvement from current conditions. Furthermore, it has been demonstrated to staff's

satisfaction the proposed development will not impact the control of flooding, erosion, pollution, or the conservation of land because no increase to flooding and erosion on adjacent lands is anticipated, the development is not expected to create pollution because stormwater will be treated to an enhanced level; and the conservation of land will not be impacted because no new environmental features will be lost.

Summary

Given the above comments, it is the opinion of SVCA staff that permit application number 23-126 conforms, in general, with Ontario Regulation 169/06 and SVCA's Environmental Planning and Regulation policies. Supporting documentation submitted with the permit application demonstrates the development would not have an impact on the control of flooding, erosion, pollution, or the conservation of land, and there will be a net positive increase in public health and safety from existing conditions. Furthermore, it is staff's opinion, construction of the development could not be reasonably completed within 24 months from the date of approval. As such, SVCA staff recommend that the Board approve permit application 23-126, with conditions, for the maximum period of 60 months.

Prepared By:

[Original signed by:]

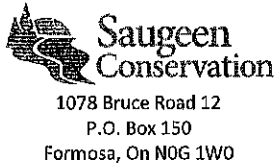
Erik Downing

Manager, Environmental Planning and Regulations

Approved By:

[Original signed by:]

Jennifer Stephens, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer



SAUGEEN VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY (SVCA)
APPLICATION TO ALTER A REGULATED AREA

Application No.
23-126
For Office Use

Ontario Regulation No. 169/06, and amendments thereto,
Conservation Authorities Act, R.S.O., 1990, Chap. C.27, as amended.

The SVCA will consider your proposal based upon the information that you provide in this application.
Please ensure that your proposal is clearly described and that all relevant information is included. Additional pages may be submitted as needed.

LANDOWNER INFORMATION

Name(s) Southampton Care Centre Inc.	Phone [REDACTED]
Mailing Address 140 Grey Street	City/Town Southampton
Email [REDACTED]	Postal Code N0H 2L0

APPLICANT INFORMATION

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant is the Landowner or one of the Landowners; or	
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant is acting on behalf of the Landowner(s) and has submitted written authorization from the Landowner(s) to SVCA.	
Applicant Name David Jarlette	Company Name Jarlette Health Services
Email [REDACTED]	Phone [REDACTED]

LOCATION OF PROPOSED PROJECT

Street Address 140 Grey Street	Municipality/Town Southampton
Lot(s) and Concession(s)	Lot and Plan No.
Other Location Information	Roll No.

PROJECT DATES

Proposed Start Date Spring 2023	Proposed Finish Date Phase 1: 2026 Phase 2: 2028
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COMPLETE IF CONSTRUCTION PROPOSED

Type of Project or Work Proposed Demolition of existing building & new building construction in phases		
Intended Use of Building/Structure Seniors Care Centre	Present Use of Building/Structure Seniors Care Centre	
Square Footage (All Floors) of Existing 3700 m2	Square Footage (Footprint Only) of Existing 3664 m2	
Square Footage (All Floors) of Proposed 16,611 m2	Square Footage (Footprint Only) of Proposed 5840 m2	
What is the height difference between the ground & the proposed building's lowest exterior opening (e.g. door, window, vent)? +/- 200 mm		
Basement/Cellar Proposed Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Crawlspace Proposed Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deck/Porch Proposed Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Equipment to be Used (e.g. excavator, bulldozer, etc.) All building construction equipment		
Any Other Relevant Information Application is for both Phase 1 and Phase 2		

COMPLETE IF FILLING, GRADING OR EXCAVATION ARE PROPOSED

Purpose of Filling/Grading/Excavation	
Intended Use of Land When Finished	
Volume of Fill to Add to Site	Type of Fill and Source
Volume of Fill to Remove from Site	Excess Fill or Spoil Relocated To
How much higher or lower will the proposed ground elevation be compared to existing?	

(See Other Side)

EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL

Proposed Method(s) of Erosion and Sediment Control During and After Construction

The entire site perimeter shall be cordoned off with silt fence. Refer to drawings.

PLANS

A site plan must be included with your application. Check each box to confirm it is on the plans:

(One copy of each plan or drawing is to be submitted. Additional copies must be provided if requested by the SVCA).

- 1. Property dimensions.
- 2. Nearest streets, roadways, laneways etc.
- 3. Watercourses on or near the property.
- 4. Existing buildings and structures and distance to lot lines, centre of road, watercourse etc.
- 5. Proposed building or structure and dimensions including decks or porches.
- 6. Proposed location of filling, area of excavation, dimensions and depths (if applicable).
- 7. Elevation of finished floor, basement/crawlspace, any windows, doors, vents, or other exterior openings in relation to finished grade
- 8. Septic bed including mantle (if applicable).
- 9. North arrow.
- 10. Other relevant site features.

Additional plans or drawings should be included showing side views, cross-section, building foundation (if applicable) and details.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- No work can be carried out until a permit is issued by the SVCA and all other necessary approvals are obtained.
- A non-refundable Application Review Fee must be paid when the application is submitted to the SVCA office. Several methods of payment are accepted. Cheques may be made payable to "Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority".
- The applicant is responsible for obtaining any other agency, government or municipal approvals as may be required.
- The information obtained on this application is a public record collected under the authority of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and is accessible upon request in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

DECLARATION

Read Carefully Before Signing

- I declare the information in this application to be true;
- I agree to allow authorized representatives of the SVCA to enter onto the property to review this application;
- I recognize and accept that the information in this application is a public record and some or all of it may be released; and
- I understand that the payment of the fee does not guarantee permission from the SVCA.

Applicant Name (Print) X ~~David Jarlette, President~~ ^{Sharon Jarlette}
~~Secretary/Treasurer~~

Applicant Signature* X Sharon Jarlette

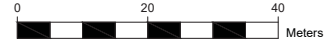
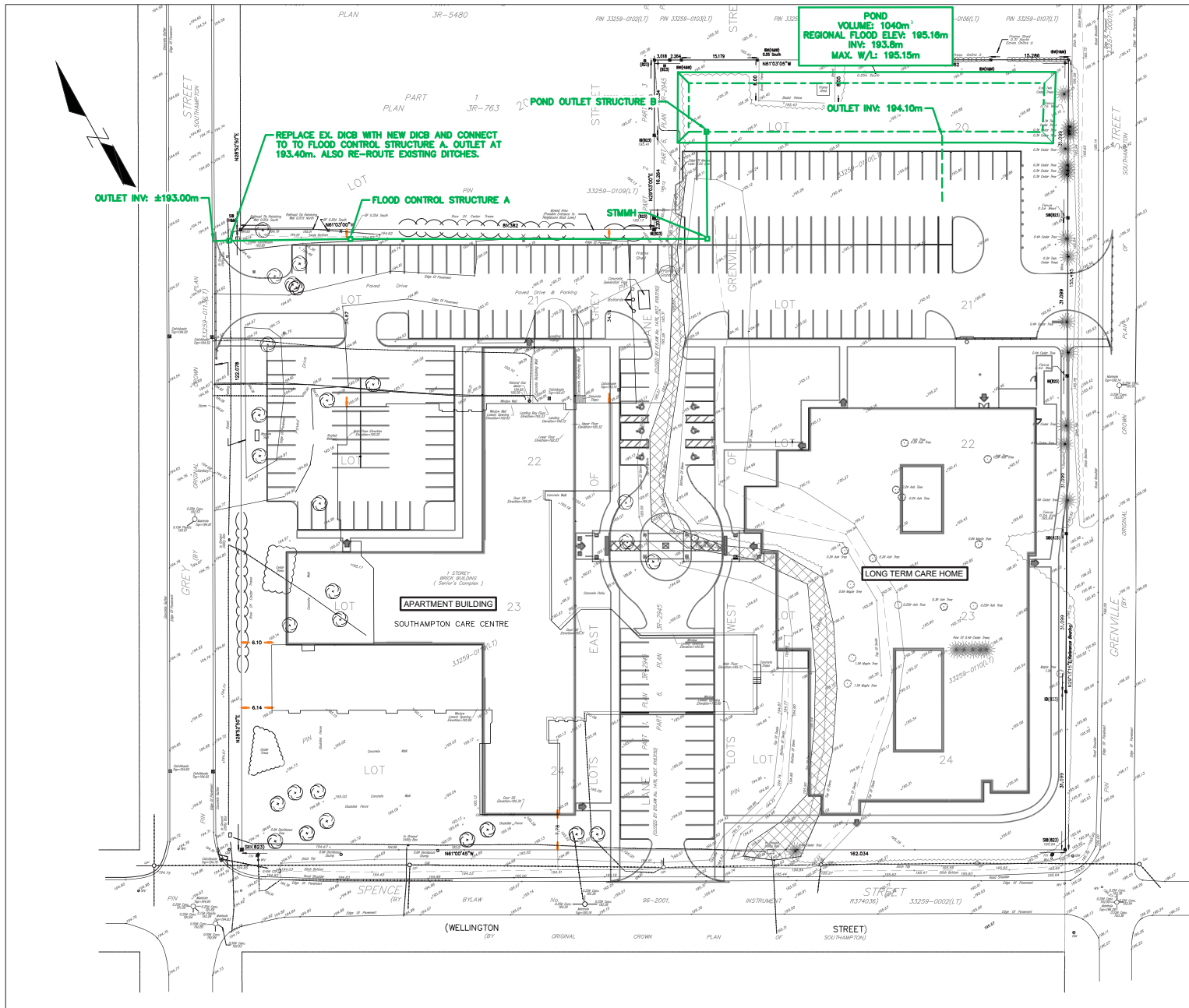
Date 05/23/23

* Typed name will indicate a signature on digital applications.

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

Fee Amount Received

Date Application Received



Owner: Jarlette Health Services
 Architect: Ted Handy & Associates Inc.
 Consultant: The Jones Consulting Group Inc.

CAUTION:
 THE POSITION OF POLE LINES, CONDUITS, WATERMANS, SEWERS AND OTHER UNDERGROUND AND OVERGROUND UTILITIES ARE STRUCTURES IS NOT NECESSARILY SHOWN ON THE CONTRACT DRAWINGS AND WHERE SHOWN, THE ACCURACY OF THE POSITION OF SUCH UTILITIES AND STRUCTURES IS NOT GUARANTEED. BEFORE STARTING WORK, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL INFORM HIMSELF OF THE EXACT LOCATION OF ALL SUCH UTILITIES AND STRUCTURES, AND SHOULD ASSUME ALL LIABILITY FOR DAMAGE TO THEM.

DD/MM/YY	REVISION / ISSUE

Seal not valid unless signed and dated



Title: Proposed Building Expansion & Site Development Plan Southampton Care Centre	
Client: Southampton Care Centre	
Design: RS	Scale: 1:750
Drawn: TDL	Approved: <i>Ted Handy</i>
Checked: RS	<i>John Jones</i> Design Engineer
Date: AUG. 2022	
DRAWING No. 22-024 FIGURE 2	

Report 8.5

Report To: Chair and Directors, Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority
From: Erik Downing, Manager, Environmental Planning and Regulations
Date: July 20, 2023
Subject: Appointment to Agricultural Advisory Committee
Purpose: To appoint Member-at-Large to the SVCA Agricultural Advisory Committee

Recommendation

THAT Adam Dales be appointed to the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority Agricultural Advisory Committee for the 2023 calendar year.

Background

On June 6, 2023, the inaugural meeting of the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority's (SVCA) Agricultural Advisory Committee took place.

Within the committee structure, the Member-at-Large position was noted as vacant. However, a pool of applications for this position was presented during the meeting, showcasing interest in filling this role. To maintain confidentiality, these applications were circulated among the members without disclosing any personal identifiers.

As a key sector of the SVCA, the Agricultural Advisory Committee is dedicated to championing sustainable agriculture, environmental conservation, and proactive engagement with the local farming community. With the full committee now in place, it is well-positioned to advocate for and contribute positively to the agricultural health and sustainability of the Saugeen watershed.

Analysis

After deliberation and a majority vote, the applicant selected for the vacant position was Adam Dales.

Adam farms his property alongside the Greenock Swamp and has been involved in implementing industry best management practices with an interest in soil quality and the health of all lands. His goal in joining the Committee is to assist with bridging the gap between the regulator and the farmer.

Prepared by:
[Original Signed by:]
Janice Hagan, Executive Assistant

Approved by:
[Original Signed by:]
Erik Downing, Acting General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

Report 8.6

Report To: Chair and Directors, Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority
From: Erik Downing, Manager, Environmental Planning and Regulations
Date: July 20, 2023
Subject: Agricultural Advisory Committee Terms of Reference
Purpose: To seek endorsement from the Board of Directors for the Agricultural Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

Recommendation

THAT the proposed Terms of Reference for the Agricultural Advisory Committee be endorsed.

Background

The Agricultural Advisory Standing Committee, a critical arm of Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority, has successfully re-commenced its operations after a pause initiated in 2019. In a crucial step towards addressing the region's pressing agricultural and environmental issues, the committee's inaugural meeting, post-hiatus, took place in June 2023.

In this session, the committee members gathered remotely. These members, appointed by the Board of Directors at the May Authority meeting, bring with them diverse agricultural backgrounds and a shared commitment towards sustainable farming practices, conservation measures, and advocating for the local agricultural community.

The meeting served as a platform to understand the current environmental challenges in the Saugeen watershed, explore sustainable agricultural practices, foster stronger relationships with local farmers, and lay the groundwork for a robust monitoring and evaluation framework. The committee is poised to continue its essential work, guided by the shared vision and commitment of its members.

Analysis

The Terms of Reference (ToR) for the committee have been updated to reflect a renewed purpose and consistency with other SVCA standing committees. The members endorsed the ToR as presented with no recommended changes.

Prepared by:

[Original Signed by:]

Janice Hagan, Executive Assistant

Approved by:

[Original Signed by:]

Erik Downing, Acting General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer



Terms of Reference

Agricultural Advisory Committee

Draft: 2023-06-06

Version 0.1

1. Purpose

The Committee's purpose is to act as a voice of the agricultural community and the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority, as well as to coordinate communication between agricultural organizations within the SVCA jurisdiction. The Committee will identify collaboration opportunities related to the agricultural community and provide feedback to the Board of Directors from the community directly.

The purpose of the Agricultural Advisory Committee is to:

- Improve communications with a diverse agricultural community through information sharing, advocacy, and education.
- Provide an opportunity for input and recommendations on matters considered impactful to the agricultural community including, but not limited to stewardship programming, legislation and policy development, and regulation and plan review policies.
- Identify areas of common interest, issues, or concerns related to the agricultural community to seek action.
- Act as a discussion group to offer communication to the SVCA Board of Directors.

2. Authority to Establish Committee

Conservation Authorities Act

Section 18(2) of the *Conservation Authorities Act* (CAA) states, "an authority shall establish such advisory boards, as may be required by regulation and may establish such other advisory boards as it considers appropriate, 2017, c. 23, Sched. 4, s. 15".

Section 18(3) of the CAA states, "an advisory board shall comply with any requirements that may be prescribed by regulation with respect to its composition, functions, powers, duties, activities, and procedures. 2017, c. 23, Sched. 4, s. 15".

Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority Administrative By-Law

Section 15 of the SVCA Administrative Bylaw states:

"In accordance with Section 18(2) of the Act, the Authority shall establish such advisory boards as may be required by regulation and may establish such other advisory boards or committees as it considers appropriate to study and report on specific matters.

The General Membership shall approve the terms of reference for all such advisory boards and committees, which shall include the role, the frequency of meetings, and the number of members required.

Resolutions and policies governing the operation of the Authority shall be observed in all advisory board and committee meetings. Each advisory board or committee shall report to the General Membership, presenting any recommendations made by the advisory board or committee.

The dates of all advisory board and committee meetings shall be made available to all members of the Authority.

The Authority may establish committees or ad hoc committees as deemed necessary to deal with short term or long-term matters concerning the operations and programs of the Authority.

Committees make recommendations or suggestions only to the Authority and do not have the power to commit the Authority or its finances to any project or program unless specifically delegated to do so by the Authority.”

3. Membership

The Agricultural Advisory Committee shall be composed generally of 14 members, who live, farm or work or represent an organization within the SVCA watershed. The SVCA Board of Directors will appoint all Advisory Committee members at their Annual Meeting held in January. It will be the responsibility of the individual organizations to recommend annually in writing their representatives by December 31st of the preceding year to the SVCA General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer. An invitation for membership would be sent to the following organizations by December 1st of the preceding year for membership on the Advisory Committee the following year:

a. Ontario Federation of Agriculture:

- 2 representatives from Bruce County Federation of Agriculture
- 2 representatives from Grey County Federation of Agriculture
- 1 representative from Huron County Federation of Agriculture
- 1 representative from Wellington County Federation of Agriculture

b. Other Agricultural Groups:

- 1 representative from Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario (CFFO)
- 1 representative from the National Farmers Union (NFU)
- 1 additional representative from the Agricultural Community (selected annually by the Advisory Committee through an open/by invitation selection process)

If Federations and/or CFFO and/or NFU do not provide their allowed number of representatives the Committee may recommend appointees from other agricultural community groups for appointment by the SVCA Board of Directors.

c. SVCA Authority Representatives:

- 4 members from the Authority appointed at large.
- Chair of the SVCA Board of Directors (ex-officio)

d. Agricultural Sector Representative:

- 1 representative appointed to SVCA’s Board of Directors as assigned by the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry.

e. SVCA Staff Resources:

- General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer;
- Manager, Environmental Planning and Regulations;
- Manager, Forestry and Lands; and/or
- Manager, Water Resources.

4. Meeting Arrangements

The Committee will convene a minimum of four times annually subject to agenda content and need. Additional meetings will be at the call of the Chair, if required, for timely matters

The Committee will set its meeting schedule annually at the first meeting of the year.

Meetings will generally be held during regular business hours at the SVCA Administration Office (1078 Bruce Road 12, Formosa, Ontario) at the call of the Committee Chair.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Chair of the Committee may call for the meeting to be conducted electronically.

Meeting agenda materials and minutes will be circulated at least 48 hours in advance of when the Committee convenes. The agenda for each meeting will be developed by SVCA staff with input from the Committee Chair.

5. Committee Chair and Vice-Chair

If the Minister of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) has designated an agricultural representative to the SVCA Board of Directors per Section 14(4) of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, this member shall be the Chair of the Agricultural Advisory Committee. The Committee shall elect a Vice-Chair from its membership annually at the first meeting of the year.

If the Ministry of the MNRF has not designated an agricultural representative per Section 14(4) of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, the Committee will elect a Chair and Vice-Chair from its membership annually at the first meeting of the year.

6. Procedural Rules

The Committee will be subject to all policies and clauses of the SVCA Administrative Bylaws. In the case where these bylaws are silent, Roberts Rules of Order takes precedent.

Quorum is greater than 50% of the Committee. Therefore, a minimum of 8 members constitutes quorum. Members shall not be represented by proxy vote.

Committee members do not have the authority to direct the activities of SVCA staff and will communicate through the SVCA General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer.

7. Decision-Making

The Agricultural Advisory Committee does not have decision-making authority over the Authority or staff of the Authority. However, the Committee has been created to make recommendations and offer communication in the best interest of the agricultural community to the Board of Directors. Consensus based decisions will be encouraged for all matters, however, if required, simple majority rules will be implemented. Each Committee member shall have full voting rights and be entitled to one vote. Members must be present at the meeting to be entitled to vote. Virtual attendance is permitted.

8. Renumeration

Committee members representing agricultural organizations are not eligible for remuneration for their participation on the Agricultural Advisory Committee. SVCA Board of Director representatives are eligible for a per diem pursuant to the policies established by SVCA.

9. Reporting

Any report from the Agricultural Advisory Committee will be brought forward by the General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer in collaboration with the Chair of the Committee to the Board of Directors. The report will include any recommendations from the Committee and a summary of relevant discussions that took place at the Committee. As part of the report, the Board of Directors will be provided with the recommendations from the Committee for their endorsement. All Minutes from Committee meetings are brought to the Board of Directors once approved by Committee members.

10. Resources

SVCA staff and other resources experts will be invited, as required, to provide additional input to Committee meetings. SVCA will provide administrative support, including the circulation of agenda materials to Committee members and general meeting co-ordination.

11. Review

This Terms of Reference will be reviewed, and amended, if necessary, at the beginning of each new term for the Authority.