

September 17, 2019

**NOTICE OF
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING**

DATE: TUESDAY, September 24, 2019

TIME: 9:30 A.M – 10:55 A.M

LOCATION: WATERSHED CONSERVATION CENTRE
BOARDROOM

AGENDA:	TIME
1. Approval of Agenda	9:30am
2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest	
3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting: Tuesday August 28, 2019	
4. Business Arising from the Minutes	9:35am
(a) Community and Corporate Service Unit Orientation (T.Hollingsworth)(Presentation) (20 minutes)	
(b) Finance Training – Depreciation (C.Saracino)(Presentation) (15 minutes)	
5. Business for Approval	10:10am
(a) Revised 2020 Budget Concepts Memo (I.Wilcox)(Doc: #122029) (Report attached)(15 minutes)	
6. Closed Session – In Camera	
7. Business for Information	10:25am
(a) Administration and Enforcement - Section 28 (T. Annett) (Doc: ENVP #8221) (Report attached)(5 minutes)	

- (b) Bill 108 and Other Provincial Updates
(I.Wilcox)(Doc: #122030)
(Report attached)(10 minutes)
- (c) Provincial Flood Advisor Consultation/Regional Meeting
(I.Wilcox)(Doc: #122032)
(Report attached)(10 minutes)

- 8. August/September For Your Information 10:50am
- 9. Other Business (Including Chair and General Manager's Comments)
- 10. Adjournment 10:55am



Ian Wilcox, General Manager

c.c. Chair and Members of the Board of Directors

T.Annett	J.Howley	S.Musclow	A.Shivas	B.Verscheure
B.Glasman	G.Inglis	C.Ramsey	J.Skrypnyk	M.Viglianti
C.Harrington	D.Charles	C.Saracino	P.Switzer	I.Wilcox
T.Hollingsworth	B.Mackie	J.Schnaithmann	C.Tasker	K.Winfield

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2019

Members Present:	M.Blosh A.Dale D.Edmiston A.Hopkins S.Levin - Chair N.Manning H.McDermid	P.Mitchell A.Murray B.Petrie J.Reffle J.Salter M.Schadenberg A.Westman
Regrets:	T.Jackson	
Solicitor:	G.Inglis	
Staff:	T.Annett E.Chandler D.Charles C.Harrington E.Heagy T.Hollingsworth M.McDonald R.McNaughton	N.Pond D.Quick C.Saracino M.Sloan C.Tasker M.Viglianti – Recorder S.Viglianti I.Wilcox

1. Approval of Agenda

The Chair noted that the communications received by Board members from the Town of St. Marys and Board member Tony Jackson would be discussed in 'Other Business', due to the Chair's absence at the October meeting.

N.Manning moved – seconded by M.Blosh:-

“RESOLVED that the UTRCA Board of Directors
approve the agenda as posted.

CARRIED.

2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

The Chair inquired whether the members had any conflicts of interest to declare relating to the agenda. There were none.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

August 27, 2019

B.Petrie moved – seconded by A.Hopkins:-

“RESOLVED that the UTRCA Board of Directors approve the Board of Directors’ minutes dated August 27, 2019 as posted on the Members’ web-site.”

CARRIED.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

(a) Community and Corporate Service Unit Orientation

T.Hollingsworth presented an overview of the Community and Corporate Services unit. She confirmed that it will be difficult to determine which education programs fall under the mandatory vs. non-mandatory category as each one will need to be looked at individually.

(b) Finance Training – Depreciation

C.Saracino gave a finance training presentation around depreciation and answered questions from the Board members.

There was a discussion around the implementation of an asset management plan. C.Saracino clarified that the UTRCA has asset management plans for flood control infrastructure, and while asset management plans for other buildings and assets are planned, it could be another two to three years before they are in place. Conservation Authorities do not have a deadline to have asset management plans in place.

5. Business for Approval

(a) Revised 2020 Budget Concepts Memo

(Report attached)

I.Wilcox presented the report and explained that due to updates and changes from the Province, staff are recommending changes to the concepts and direction previously approved by the Board in June.

There was an explanation and discussion on the Current Value Assessment (CVA) calculation and its impact on budget distribution and levies of rural Municipalities. The Board suggested that when I.Wilcox presents the Budget and levy increase to Municipal Councils, he show separately the sources of the increase, i.e. inflation, the portion replacing funds cut by the Province to Flood Control, and CVA.

There was a discussion on the impact of the changes to the Conservation Authorities Act on the ability to fund the Targets work.

Board members voiced their concerns on the deferral of Targets funding from the 2020 draft Budget concepts. Some felt a deferral would be short sighted, straying away from the long term goals of the UTRCA, and be an abandonment of the Targets work that is supported by the majority of the member Municipalities. Some members felt that given the political climate, continuing uncertainty surrounding the changes to the Conservation Authorities Act and Bill 108, a deferral of one year was appropriate.

Board members proposed and discussed the option of including Targets funding in the 2020 budget concepts, but reducing the proposed amount. Board members felt that by deferring the Targets from the 2020 draft budget concepts it would no longer be part of the Budget conversation and they felt it was too early in the Budget process to remove it from discussions. Board members proposed adding a 'Part B' to the recommendation, to have staff report back on what the numbers would mean towards the UTRCA goals and budget from \$0 to \$306,000 to determine the best value per dollar. It was clarified that if passed, Part B would become part of the notification to the Municipalities. Until the Board is comfortable with the proposed levy increase, no numbers will be circulated to the Municipalities.

A.Hopkins moved – seconded by A.Westman:-

“RESOLVED that the Board of Directors approve the five recommendations as presented.”

CARRIED.

B.Petrie moved – seconded by M.Schadenberg:-

“RESOLVED that the following Part B be added to the approved recommendations: that staff be asked to include in it's October budget presentation the impacts of the Environmental Targets from \$0 to \$306,000.”

CARRIED.

I.Wilcox presented two documents handed out to Board members at the meeting for their information. The documents were created for the City of London, outlining the programs and services currently provided to the City of London by the UTRCA, and identifying potential core programs. Staff will create one for each Municipality to be presented during Budget presentations to Municipal Councils. Members were asked to contact I.Wilcox if they would like this information in advance of his Budget presentations to their Municipal Councils.

6. Closed Session – In Camera

B.Petrie moved – seconded by A.Hopkins:-

“RESOLVED that the UTRCA Board of Directors approve

the Closed Session minutes dated August 27, 2019 as circulated.”

CARRIED.

There were no items for discussion in camera.

7. Business for Information

- (a) Administration and Enforcement – Section 28
(Report attached)

A.Westman moved – seconded by P.Mitchell:-

“RESOLVED that the Board of Directors receive the report as presented.”

CARRIED.

- (b) Bill 108 and Other Provincial Updates
(Report attached)

I.Wilcox outlined his report and updated the Board on recent Bill 108 and Provincial developments. The UTRCA has received many letters of support from the public, businesses and partner organizations. Zorra Township, City of Woodstock, and Oxford County have passed motions in support of the UTRCA and the Town of Ingersoll has one on their October agenda. The Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks will be engaging in consultations with Conservation Authorities (CAs) and the Minister is now willing to meet with Conservation Ontario and CAs.

- (c) Provincial Flood Advisor Consultation/Regional Meeting
(Report attached)

I.Wilcox reviewed his report.

8. August/September For Your Information
(FYI attached)

The August/September FYI was presented for the Member’s information.

9. Other Business

The 2019 A.D Latonnell Conservation Symposium will be held on November 19-21st. If any Board members are interested please contact Michelle before October 4th.

The first draft budget will be presented at the October Board meeting. The Board members were reminded that following the October Board meeting there will be a recognition event to remember the life of Kayla Berger.

The letters from the Town of St. Marys and T.Jackson regarding a letter sent to the St. Marys Golf Course from S.Levin were discussed at this time. S.Levin clarified that the Board of Directors cannot direct staff on any operations issues, unless a Board resolution is passed. There was a discussion on the latitude of staff and Chair in terms of communication to the members Municipalities, media and the public. It was noted that there is nothing currently in the handbook to guide staff and Board members is writing letters to stakeholders. While the Board members felt the information and overall message in S.Levin's letter to the St. Marys Golf Course was in line with UTRCA operational procedures for Wildwood Dam, they agreed a correspondence piece should be added to the Administrative By-Laws.

A.Hopkins moved – seconded by B.Petrie:-

“RESOLVED that the Board of Directors direct staff to come back in November with examples of correspondence policy from other Municipalities and Conservation Authorities.”

CARRIED.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 pm on a motion by M.Blosh.



Ian Wilcox
General Manager
Att.

To: UTRCA Board of Directors
From: Ian Wilcox, General Manager
Date: September 12, 2019
Subject: REVISED- UTRCA 2020 Draft Budget Concepts Memo

Agenda #: 5 (a)
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Recommendations:

That the UTRCA Board of Directors approve the following revisions to the 2020 Draft Budget Concepts Report originally considered at the June 2019 Board meeting (original report attached):

1. That the Environmental Targets Strategic Plan final levy increase of \$306,544 originally planned for 2020 be deferred until 2021,
2. That an inflationary increase of 1.9% as per Ontario's April 2018- April 2019 Consumer Price Index be included (*no change from the June report*),
3. That the 2019 provincial flood control transfer payment reduction of \$170,000 be recovered through the 2020 municipal levy,
4. That provincial funding for Section 39 of the Conservation Authorities Act (Flood Control), Drinking Water Source Protection, and the Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure fund (WECI) be anticipated as status quo for 2020. Any unexpected provincial funding reductions for these programs would be considered as a transfer of costs from the province to municipalities through the municipal levy.
5. That Member Municipalities be immediately notified of these 2020 draft budget changes.

Discussion

The UTRCA's Draft 2020 Budget has attempted to anticipate program and funding changes as proposed through Bill 108. However, there has been no provincial consultation or progress since April in terms of clear definitions or detail in support of the Bill. The Minister's letter of August 16 directing Conservation Authorities to "wind down" non-mandatory programs and to not increase levies or user fees only served to confuse the issue as it contradicted Bill 108's legislative amendments. While it appears the Minister has back-tracked on his August 16th letter, no other details have been forthcoming so staff are left to speculate regarding 2020 funding needs.

Internal staff discussions informed by feedback from member municipalities has resulted in the above recommendations to refine the UTRCA's 2020 levy request. While there is still a risk of further provincial transfer payment cuts, **it is the staff recommendation that the 2020 municipal levy increase be limited to an inflationary adjustment of 1.9% as well as the replacement of \$170,000 in lost flood control transfer payments.** New funding in support of the Environmental Targets Strategic Plan will be deferred until 2021. Other projections for 2021 and beyond as proposed in the June report remain valid and will be discussed as part of each year's budget development process.

Prepared and Recommended by:

Ian Wilcox

To: UTRCA Board of Directors
From: Ian Wilcox, General Manager
Date: June 5, 2019
Subject: UTRCA 2020 Draft Budget
Concepts Memo

Agenda #: 5 (a)

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Recommendations:

1. That the Board approve preparation of a 2020 Draft Municipal Levy that includes:
 - a. The Environmental Targets Strategic Plan final installment of \$306,544 as per the approved 2016 Strategic Plan,
 - b. An inflationary increase of 1.9% as per Ontario's April 2018- April 2019 Consumer Price Index.

2. That the Board receive the 2020- 2023 Projected Annual New Levy Investment for information noting that estimates include UTRCA initiatives as well as expected provincially downloaded costs for:
 - a. Section 39 Transfer Payment
 - b. Source Water Protection
 - c. WECl

Discussion

Each June staff seek high level budget direction from the Board, specifically regarding the municipal levy, as guidance for draft budget development during the summer as well as input for the City of London's budget, due in July. This guidance is not binding; the Board will review the full draft budget in October, again in January, and consider final approval at the AGM in February. Changes are possible and expected at each stage of the budget's development.

The 2020 municipal levy rate will be affected by two categories of costs:

- 1) Those increases that have been planned and initiated by the UTRCA including the final year of investment in the Environmental Targets Strategic Plan, as well as a regular cost of living increase, and,
- 2) Those increases that are the result of provincially driven decisions and that were not anticipated including the downloading of Section 39 transfer payments, and potentially source water protection funding, and flood control infrastructure costs.

Recent changes to the Conservation Authorities Act authorized through Bill 108 have created significant uncertainty in terms of the UTRCA's 2020 draft budget, including the municipal levy. New but undefined categories of mandatory versus non-mandatory programs, a proposed reduction in levying powers, the

requirement for individual municipal agreements regarding non-mandatory work, and the potential downloading of hazard management, source water protection and the loss of flood control infrastructure subsidies to municipalities will significantly affect the next four year budget cycle. For the most part these changes have been approved at a high level but definitions and enabling regulations still need to be developed, as well as a timetable for implementation. A four year levy projection included here is based on the best available information but is likely to change as details regarding legislative amendments are clarified. The following table presents these anticipated levy requests over the next four years. Discussion of these line-by-line costs is included below.

Projected Annual New Municipal Levy Investment

MUNICIPAL INVESTMENT	DETAIL	2020	2021	2022	2023
UTRCA Initiatives					
1. Environmental Targets	2020 final year, no new funding required thereafter	\$306,544 (5.8%)	\$0	\$0	\$0
2. Organizational Review/ Restructuring	Planned and long overdue organizational review including salary grid comparison	\$0	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0
3. Inflation	Tied to April/ April Ontario CPI Source: CPI Ontario 1.9% year over year (Inflation Calculator)	\$100,372 (1.9%)	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%
Provincially Instigated Costs (Downloads)					
4. Section 39 Hazard Management	Anticipate full cost transfer to municipalities	\$351,000 (6.6%)	\$0	\$0	\$0
5. Source Water Protection	Anticipate full cost transfer to municipalities	\$293,000 (5.5%)	\$0	\$0	\$0
6. WECl	Anticipate cancellation of cost- sharing program	variable	variable	variable	variable



- Shaded section is to be considered for approval

UTRCA Initiatives

- 1.Environmental Targets Strategic Plan:** The final installment of municipal funding supporting the Strategic Plan is scheduled for 2020 in the amount of \$306,544. The Plan’s Progress and future work planning was included as part of the May 2019 Board meeting agenda. That meeting also included discussion regarding phasing-in this final funding amount over two years based on mounting municipal financial pressures. However, based on the potential of future funding limitations (Bill 108), and concern with meeting the Plan’s schedule, staff recommends support for the original funding timetable.
- 2.Organizational Review/ Restructuring:** The UTRCA’s organizational structure was last formally reviewed in 1996. The last salary grid review was in 2006. Given organizational changes, internal work flow challenges, additional and evolving legislative responsibilities, anticipated changes from Bill 108, and a need to remain competitive in a difficult employment market, a formal review of both

the organizational structure and salary grid is proposed for 2021. Costs included here are tentative and should be considered a placeholder rather than an accurate expense forecast.

β. **Inflation:** The UTRCA has a practice of using the April over April Consumer Price Index as a guide for annual inflationary increases. The 2020 value of 1.9% is based on the actual measure; the future amounts of 2.0% for 2021-2023 are estimates based on Consensus Economics Inc. Apr 2019 for a two to three year forecast and will be adjusted using each budget year's actual data as it becomes available. It should be noted the provincial government has imposed a 1% salary cap for public sector workers. Neither the UTRCA nor municipal staff are technically part of the "public sector" so this requirement does not apply however the Board may wish to consider this is discussing an inflationary increase.

Provincially Instigated Costs (Downloads)

4. **Section 39 Hazard Management Costs:** As reported at the May 2019 Board meeting, an in-year reduction of 50% (\$170K) was imposed on the UTRCA and will be managed through year-end adjustments (investment income, deficit, and reserves). For 2020 and beyond, it is expected the remaining transfer payment will be eliminated and funding responsibility fully transferred to our member municipalities. Total funding loss will be \$351,020.
5. **Source Water Protection:** Currently the Source Water Protection Program is 100% funded by the province and the UTRCA's legal responsibilities are articulated through the Clean Water Act. Bill 108 makes clear this program is mandatory for CAs but adds the ability for Conservation Authorities to levy municipalities for program costs. This administrative change strongly suggests program costs will be downloaded to member municipalities. Program costs of \$293K are therefore anticipated as part of the municipal levy for 2020 and beyond.
6. **WECI:** The province has provided an annual \$5M pot of flood control infrastructure funding to support 50% of eligible project expenses. The 36 Conservation Authorities compete for this funding annually with the UTRCA typically receiving a significant portion of that amount (e.g., UTRCA received \$1.9M in 2019). While no formal announcements have been made, this funding appears vulnerable and a reduction or complete elimination of the program is anticipated for 2020. The impact of the funding loss would be highly variable per municipality and would depend on a review of the flood control capital maintenance plan. Costs will then be borne by member municipalities.

Municipal Pressures

1. It is recognized there is on-going municipal pressure for cost containment. St. Marys and Perth South (and to a lesser extent Perth East) have expressed concern during the past two years with the funding required to support our Environmental Targets Strategic Plan. They have noted increasing pressures on municipal finances from a variety of sources, and their own efforts at cost containment as justification for reduced levy demands from the UTRCA.
2. The City of London is in the process of developing a four year budget (2020-2023) and, in anticipation of growing financial pressures, has set annual budget increase targets for civic departments and boards and commissions of 1.5%. Those with justification for higher increases are asked to develop and present a "business case" for review by council. The UTRCA is working with City staff to prepare a business case inclusive of its Environmental Targets Strategic Plan and inflationary increase. It is expected cost pressures from provincial downloads will be addressed through a separate report.

2020 Budget Development Schedule

The UTRCA's budget schedule is similar to past years with the key early driver being the City of London's request for our four year levy plan (2020-2023) by mid-July.

June 2019: Board direction regarding a 2020 municipal levy

June- July 2019: City of London budget form and business case submissions

June- October 2019: Draft budget development

September 2019: Municipal Budget Workshop

October 2019: Draft Budget Board Approval

October 2019- February 2020: Draft Budget circulation to member municipalities for comment

January 2020: Board review of municipal comments and budget reconsideration

February 2020: Budget approval

Prepared and Recommended by:

Ian Wilcox, General Manager

Christine Saracino, Supervisor, Finance & Accounting

To: Chair and Members of the UTRCA Board of Directors
From: Tracy Annett, Manager – Environmental Planning and Regulations
Date: September 16, 2019 **Agenda #:** 7 (a)
Subject: Administration and Enforcement – Sect. 28 Status Report – **Filename:** Document
Development, Interference of Wetlands and Alteration to **ENVP 8221**
Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation

The attached table is provided to the Board as a summary of staff activity related to the Conservation Authority's *Development, Interference of Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation* (Ont. Reg. 157/06 made pursuant to Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act). The summary covers the period from August 20, 2019 to September 16, 2019.

Reviewed by:

Tracy Annett, MCIP, RPP, Manager
Environmental Planning and Regulations

Prepared by:

Cari Ramsey
Env. Regulations Technician

Jessica Schnaithmann
Land Use Regulations Officer

Brent Verscheure
Land Use Regulations Officer

Karen Winfield
Land Use Regulations Officer

SECTION 28 STATUS REPORT SUMMARY OF APPLICATIONS



DEVELOPMENT, INTERFERENCE WITH WETLANDS AND ALTERATIONS TO SHORELINE AND WATERCOURSES REGULATION ONTARIO REGULATION 157/09

Period of Report: August 20, 2019 to September 16, 2019

Permit Application	Municipality	Address/Location	Application Type	Project Description	Application Complete	Permit Issued	Regulations Staff
34-19 (Amendment)	Thames Centre	17000 Storey Drive	Construct/Reconstruct	Amendment to previously issued permit for proposed single family residence with Attached Garage, Open and Closed Decks adjacent the North Thames River.	06/09/2019	16/09/2019	Winfield
41-19	West Perth	100 St. George Street	Construct/Reconstruct	Proposed Demolition of Existing Cooling Tower and Construction of New Refrigeration Building	26/08/2019	27/08/2019	Schnaithmann
147-19	Perth East	2129 & 2100 Line 37	Watercourse Enclosure	Proposed Enclosure of Approximately 90 Metres of an Unnamed Tributary	16/08/2019	29/08/2019	Schnaithmann
151-19	St. Marys	Wellington Street North and Grand Trunk Trail	Utilities/Services	Reconstruction of 90 metres of Wellington Street North and 440 metres of Egan Avenue with an Outlet into an Existing Drainage Ditch	28/08/2019	04/09/2019	Schnaithmann
161-19	London	120 Meadowlily Road South	Minor Works	Proposed 125m planned connection via woodchip trail	06/08/2019	19/08/2019	Verscheure
162-19	London	420,440,460 & 480 Callaway Road	Construct/Reconstruct	Proposed high density residential development of four (4) apartment buildings (10 Storeys, 479 Units)	31/07/2019	29/08/2019	Verscheure
165-19	London	1400 Adelaide Street North	Municipal Project	Proposed new Kilally Fields Sports Park including baseball diamonds, cricket field, playground and fieldhouse	15/07/2019	30/08/2019	Verscheure
166-19	Middlesex Centre	71 Blackburn Crescent	Construct/Reconstruct	Proposed Second Floor Kitchen Addition & Deck adjacent the Main Branch of the Thames River.	19/08/2019	29/08/2019	Winfield
167-19	Perth East	4908 Perth Line 46	Construct/Reconstruct	Proposed Farm Storage Shed Addition	23/08/2019	29/08/2019	Schnaithmann

Permit Application	Municipality	Address/Location	Application Type	Project Description	Application Complete	Permit Issued	Regulations Staff
168-19	Middlesex Centre	22900 Wonderland Road North	Construct/Reconstruct	Proposed Residential Addition adjacent the Irwin Municipal Drain.	03/09/2019	06/09/2019	Winfield
171-19	Perth South	5083 Line 2	Watercourse Alteration	Proposed Channel Retrofit and Installation of Sediment Stilling Basin. This project is required rehabilitation for a violation previously brought to the board in August regarding unauthorized watercourse excavation, unauthorized culvert/driveway installation and subsequent flooding on neighbouring property. Following submission of retrofit plans by a qualified drainage engineer UTRCA was able to issue approval for retrofit in the channel.	26/08/2019	30/08/2019	Winfield
172-19	Perth South	4725 Line 1	Construct/Reconstruct	Proposed Installation of Septic System	04/09/2019	09/09/2019	Schnaithmann
173-19	Woodstock	317 Masters Drive	Construct/Reconstruct	Proposed Single Family Residence adjacent Sally Creek	06/09/2019	10/09/2019	Winfield
174-19	London	Ann Street to Oxford Street along Thames Valley Parkway	Utilities/Services	Installation of New Concrete Encased Duct Structure	06/09/2019	11/09/2019	Schnaithmann
179-19	London	507 Regal Court	Construct/Reconstruct	Proposed Installation of a Detached Carport	12/09/2019	13/09/2019	Schnaithmann
180-19	Perth East	2028 Line 29	Construct/Reconstruct	Proposed Construction of Finishing Barn and Lane Access Road	10/09/2019	13/09/2019	Schnaithmann

Permit Application	Municipality	Address/Location	Application Type	Project Description	Application Complete	Permit Issued	Regulations Staff	
Section 28 Enforcement								
	Municipality	Address/Location	Violation					
	Thames Centre	Hamilton Road	<p>STATUS UPDATE: Following complaints of filling in the floodplain, UTRCA staff attended a site visit (August 23, 2019) to the property. Unauthorized filling and grading works were actively occurring adjacent the Harris-Connors Drain and tributary to the South Thames River. UTRCA undertook discussions with the landowner who advised he would be stopping the fill trucks and removing the fill from the floodplain. Our staff subsequently met with consultant on site who has advised they will be working to relocate the fill and restore the site.</p>					Ramsey, Winfield
	Woodstock & South-West Oxford	Highway #59	<p>STATUS UPDATE: Following complaints of active filling in the floodplain of Cedar Creek (on a golf course property) UTRCA staff attended the site (June 20, 2019) and noted recent and unauthorized filling, excavation and site grading activity. Adjacent landowner(s) concerned that works were undertaken on their property as well without their permission. Contractor (who used to own the property) was previously charged by the UTRCA for filling on the same property. UTRCA staff subsequently issued violation letters to both the contractor and the current landowner. Landowner has repeatedly refused to meet to discuss restoration of the site. Construction work again were undertaken in the floodplain over the long weekend (September 2019). UTRCA staff are now assessing other options to address compliance at this site.</p>					Schnaithmann, Winfield
	Ingersoll	Victoria Street	<p>STATUS UPDATE: UTRCA staff have attended multiple monitoring visits (July, August, September 2019) to a municipal bridge replacement project on Sutherland Creek adjacent the South Thames River where inadequate sediment and erosion controls and dewatering installations have been employed. UTRCA staff have met with the adjacent landowner, Town staff and the contractors in an effort to have the sediment controls and coffer dams modified to prevent sediment from reaching the river. While there have been occasional upgrades this project continues to be a problem. UTRCA staff will be undertaking routine monitoring of the site and will continue to work with the other parties to address compliance with our permit conditions.</p>					Ramsey, Schnaithmann, Winfield

To: UTRCA Board of Directors
From: Ian Wilcox, General Manager
Date: September 12, 2019
Subject: Update: Provincial Changes to the Conservation Authorities Act

Agenda #: 7 (b)
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This report will remain as a standing item on the UTRCA's Board Agenda until sufficient provincial direction and clarity is provided regarding Bill 108 and the future of Conservation Authority programs and funding.

The following is a summary of events and activities since the Board's August meeting:

1. **September 9th Conservation Ontario Meeting with Minister Yurek**

Conservation Ontario Chair Wayne Emmerson and General Manager Kim Gavine met with Minister Jeff Yurek and staff on Monday September 9th. This was the first formal meeting between the current Minister and Conservation Ontario and while there was no tangible outcome in terms of policy clarity or commitments, it was a first engagement that can hopefully lead to more productive future discussions. The meeting summary and briefing note was emailed to you previously and is included again here:

To: CAOs
From: Kim Gavine
Re: Meeting with Minister Yurek and Staff
Date: September 9, 2019

Today, the Chair and I had the opportunity to meet with Minister Yurek and his staff. Our strategy was to focus on a number of key asks, the first one being our request that they do a pre-consultation with conservation authorities and their member municipalities. Although the conversation was difficult at times and no definitive commitments have been made, the Minister is considering our request. I'll be following up with his Chief of Staff in the next couple of days.

We also discussed a number of other issues including: no further provincial funding cuts to Transfer Payments, the need for clarification around mandatory and non-mandatory programs and the provision of an adequate transition time to implement changes to CA programs and services. We also clarified the many ways that conservation authorities are accountable and transparent to their member municipalities.

As I'm sure you can appreciate, we are in tenuous times. Your letters and resolutions have been excellent in outlining your concerns with the Minister's messages, while at the same time profiling the great and important work undertaken by the conservation authorities. At this time, it is critical that we continue this positive and respectful messaging.

Wayne also invited the Minister to our Council meeting for September or December. Again, although no commitments were made, there was interest.

We will of course be bringing more information to the Council meeting on the 30th. Should anything critical occur before that time, we will of course keep you apprised.

Please don't hesitate to pick up the phone and call me if you'd like to discuss further. The Briefing Note we left with the Minister is attached.

Kim

Conservation Ontario Briefing Note Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks

September 9, 2019

Introduction:

Conservation Ontario and the Conservation Authorities (CAs) want to work with the Province to respond to the many changes that have occurred over the last few months including an amended *Conservation Authorities Act*, anticipated regulations, funding cuts and extreme 2019 flooding that continues in some parts of the province even today. We are committed to work with the province to improve client service and accountability in order to increase the speed of planning and development reviews and approvals and reduce regulatory burden.

Our Request:

- 1. Pre-consultation with CAs and municipalities:** Request that the Province hold a separate, pre-consultation with conservation authorities and municipalities in order to enable us an opportunity to outline the delineation between mandatory and non-mandatory services and activities, how these are currently funded, and their connections and benefits to local municipalities' priorities and the Made-in-Ontario Environmental Plan
- 2. No further provincial funding cuts to Transfer Payments:** Request that the Province maintain provincial transfer payments for the hazard and source water protection programs because no further cuts can be managed by conservation authorities with no impact to municipal levy or delivery of programs and services that protect public health and safety
- 3. Provide an adequate transition time:** Request the proposed 18-24 months transition time to implement changes to mandatory and non-mandatory programs and services so that conservation authorities can meet with their watershed municipalities to identify and confirm the non-mandatory programs and develop CA-municipality MOUs and agreements
- 4. Invitation to Conservation Ontario Council:** Request the presence of the Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks at Conservation Ontario's Council meeting on September 30th
- 5. Identify opportunities for Conservation Authority visits:** Request future meetings with conservation authorities in their local watersheds to see their work first-hand

Changes to Conservation Authorities' Focus / Mandatory vs Non-Mandatory Programs

- Conservation Ontario and the Conservation Authorities want to work with the Province to implement the changes outlined in Bill 108.
- Given the current funding and accountability frameworks, we feel that conservation authorities, municipalities and the Province should have the first conversations exploring what should comprise the mandatory and non-mandatory programs and services of CAs. It was our understanding that the details of the mandatory programs and services would be outlined in regulations and that there would be adequate opportunities for Conservation Ontario and the CAs to provide an overview of current programs and services and then discuss, with municipalities and the Province, which of these should be deemed mandatory and non-mandatory.

- Consistency, accountability and transparency will be achieved more easily across conservation authorities if the Province continues to invest in the mandatory programs and services, and also continue to provide technical guidance, policy and training support to CAs.

The Relationships between Mandatory and Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

- Conservation Authorities are concerned that some services and activities that support the delivery of mandatory programs, may be classified as non-mandatory and therefore may not be supported. As an example, if watershed-based monitoring (such as water quality) wasn't considered as a component of the source water protection mandatory program and not supported by either the Province or individual municipalities, the other legislated activities could not be undertaken thus resulting in increased environmental risks and liabilities for CAs, municipalities and the Province.
- Many popular and revenue generating activities such as local festivals, recreational activities or using conservation areas as wedding venues are actually self-sustaining and often generate a profit that can be redirected to support environmental work of mandatory programs. These events are very popular locally with municipalities and residents and often provide spillover economic and tourism opportunities for local communities.

Provincial Support for Conservation Authorities

- The Provincial spring budget announced a 50 percent reduction to Conservation Authorities' provincial transfer payments for natural hazards. This has affected conservation authorities in different ways with more significant impacts being experienced by the smaller and mid-sized CAs who rely more heavily on provincial support. It was also problematic in that the cuts were announced mid-year, making it very difficult to cover off the losses.
- Conservation Authorities are finding funds internally by eliminating programs or relying on reserves where possible and sometimes in combination with an increase to their municipal levy to help offset the loss without reducing activities.
- Another reduction of the remainder of the provincial transfer payments for either natural hazards or drinking water source protection could potentially increase risk and liability for the conservation authorities, their member municipalities and the Province.

Conservation Authorities' Accountability and Transparency

- Conservation authorities share the Province's commitment to accountability and transparency particularly in relation to municipalities who provide significant financial support for CA programs and services.
- Municipalities have a strong governance role with CAs. Member municipalities appoint municipal representatives to CA Boards of Directors and almost all of them are municipally elected officials. CA Board members are responsible for reviewing and approving CA annual work plans, budgets and audited financial statements as well as any broader strategic directions.
- CA programs and services information is provided to member municipalities and is also available to the general public through annual audits, CA Board reports, municipal presentations, special reports and/or postings on conservation authorities' websites.

CA Client Service and Streamlining Initiative Supports the Provincial Housing Strategy

- All 36 conservation authorities have passed resolutions stating their commitment to taking steps locally and collaboratively with CO to improve client service and accountability, increase speed of approvals and reduce red tape and regulatory burden.
- Working with CAs, municipalities, and the development community, Conservation Ontario developed three guidance documents for CAs that will help CAs to make changes in order to improve consistency and to deliver streamlined reviews and approvals in conservation authority planning and regulations functions. Plus, work is ongoing.
- Over 300 conservation authority staff have participated in eight Client-Centric Customer Service Training sessions.

For more information, please contact:

2. Letters of Support

Staff have been encouraged by a number of public letters of support addressed to Minister Yurek that have been shared with the UTRCA. These letters have been authored by landowners, private businesses, and local environmental organizations, among others.

3. Municipal Positions

- Zorra Township approved a resolution supporting continuance of the UTRCA's programs and services.
- The City of Stratford will be considering a resolution in support of the UTRCA and the existing scope of programs and services.
- A meeting with London's Mayor and Deputy Mayor was held Monday, September 16th. Staff will be responding to the City with more information.
- A budget presentation is scheduled for Oxford County Council October 9th. It is expected this will include a request for County support.
- A letter to Minister Yurek from Perth South was circulated to the Board September 12th. This letter supports no fee increases as well as the program changes proposed through Bill 108. Council was critical of what they feel is a lack of transparency and accountability. In addition criticism was directed at the General Manager and Board Chair for responding to the Minister's August 16th letter without first consulting the Board.
- A letter to Minister Yurek was received from the Town of St. Marys on August 27th supporting the Minister's August 16th letter and specifically his direction to not increase levies or fees and the reduced focus on core programs and services. Emphasis was also placed on legislation that "balances the need to protect the environment while being flexible and support the growth of business and municipalities."

4. UTRCA Staff Updates

- Three staff question and answer sessions were held in late August.
- Uncertainties with Bill 108 have fostered staff anxiety. Management's goal is to keep staff as informed as possible with current and accurate information.
- The management team is committed to answering staff questions and listening to suggestions regarding possible program and funding changes.

Overall little progress has been made in clarifying Bill 108. There are still no definitions regarding mandatory versus non-mandatory programs and pressure is mounting as Conservation Authorities and municipalities begin 2020 budget development. Conservation Ontario continues to try and engage the Minister's Office while the UTRCA's focus remains with member municipalities and our need to negotiate service agreements.

Prepared by:

Ian Wilcox,
General Manager

To: UTRCA Board of Directors
From: Ian Wilcox, General Manager
Date: September 12, 2019
Subject: Provincial Flood Advisor Consultation/
Regional Meeting

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Mr. Doug McNeil was appointed by the Premier this past summer to prepare a report for the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry with recommendations for improved flood management in Ontario. This appointment was the province's response to flooding in Ottawa, Muskoka and other areas this past spring. Conservation Authorities were initially concerned with a lack of consultation regarding the scope of the Advisor's work however it is an opportunity to focus the province's attention on long standing needs for flood management.

Roughly six Conservation Authorities, including the UTRCA, received invitations to meet one-on-one with Mr. McNeil. UTRCA staff met with him and a team of MNR staff at the Watershed Conservation Centre on Saturday, September 14th. The meeting was very positive. Staff had every opportunity to present issues and concerns, and Mr. McNeil was accommodating, listened well and seemed supportive of our interests. Our one-on-one session was followed by a broader meeting later in the morning with the Lower Thames, St. Claire Region, and Essex Region Conservation Authorities, and several Southwest municipalities attending. The common request from that broader meeting was for more funding for flood victims and support for Conservation Authorities and floodplain regulations.

Mr. McNeil's report is due to the Minister October 31st however it will only be made public at the Minister's discretion. Based on our meeting staff are confident the report will reinforce Conservation Authority concerns regarding funding, provincial policy support as well as the effectiveness of our planning and regulatory programs. It is important to note that the Flood Advisor's work is separate from Bill 108's changes to the Conservation Authorities Act however there's obvious overlap. With Bill 108 categorizing flood management as a "core" program, it is hoped the Flood Advisor's recommendations will be taken seriously.

The fact sheet/ key messages that were prepared for the meeting are attached.

Prepared by:

Ian Wilcox,
General Manager



UPPER THAMES RIVER

CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



West London Dyke

Upper Thames River Conservation Authority Meeting with

Doug McNeil

Provincial Flood Advisor

Saturday, September 14, 2019, 9:00-10:00 am
Watershed Conservation Centre

Attendees:

Doug McNeil, Provincial Flood Advisor

Mike Passey, Danielle MacCorkindale,
and Debrupa Pathak (MNR)

Ian Wilcox, Teresa Hollingsworth, Tracy Annett,
and Mark Shifflett (UTRCA)

Agenda:

pg 1 Introductions

pg 2 Flood Management Concerns/ Threats

pg 3 UTRCA Flood Management System

pg 5 Assessment - It Works and Why

pg 6 Other/ Questions



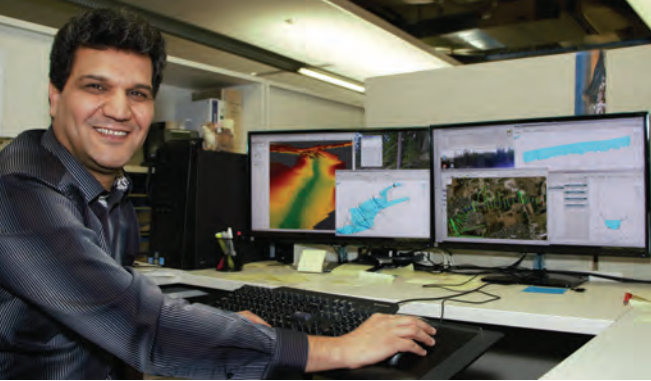
St. Marys Floodwall, February 2018 Flood

Flood Management Concerns and Threats

- Complacency regarding risk - victims of our own success
- Escalating Development Pressures - High value of land - political pressure (municipally and provincially) - ties into complacency
- Concerned preventive policy-based programs are at risk due to pressures listed above: Section 28 regulations, Provincial Policy Statement, technical guides, education, funding
- Funding for operations are grossly inadequate and what remains is at risk (recent 50% cut to already inadequate funding)
- Watershed management model is at risk - Recent legislative changes (Bill 108) has the potential to compartmentalize flooding from other watershed management efforts - this is inefficient and ineffective
- Concerned flood risk in Ontario will ultimately increase through weakened policies and reduced funding



Uploading hazard mapping & modelling



Wildwood Dam & Reservoir

UTRCA Flood Management System

UTRCA Flood Protection Programs:

1. **Prevention:** Regulations, land use planning, education, land ownership, mapping & modelling. Most cost effective.
2. **Protection:** Structural measures and land acquisition. Often expensive and involves maintenance and capital investment commitments.
3. **Emergency Response:** Monitoring, data management, flood forecasting & warning system and emergency response. Not a preventative approach to flooding.

Staff Effort:

- 72 years of watershed management experience
- 28 FTEs plus support staff serving 17 member municipalities

Communities at Risk:

- Example of St. Marys flood model
- Flood model updates have been despite lack of provincial support

Flood Prevention:

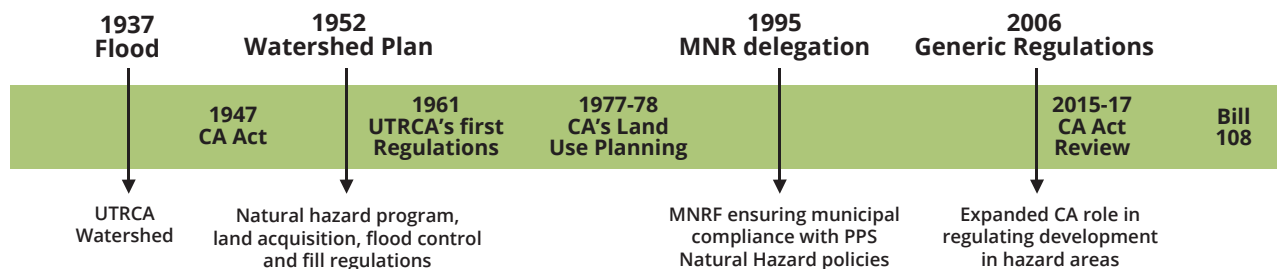
- Flood plain development regulations and land use planning ensure public safety by directing development away from areas of natural hazards where there is an unacceptable risk
- Land ownership - 7,000 hectares (15,000 acres) of flood plains, wetlands and reservoir lands owned by UTRCA, almost 2% of the watershed
- Curriculum-based education programs and community outreach

Flood Protection:

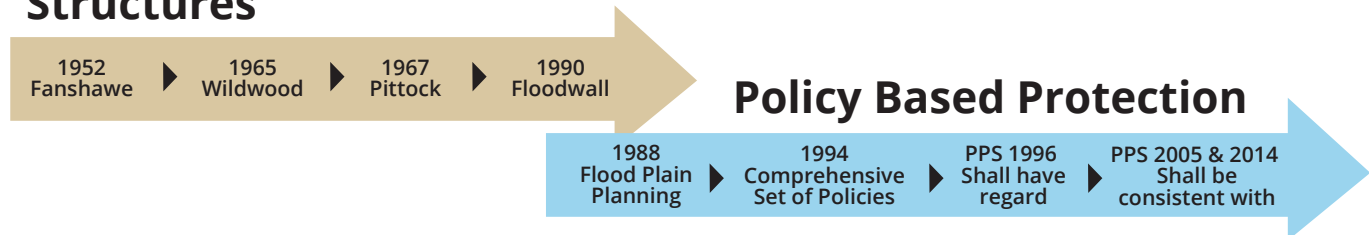
Note: Infrastructure offers partial protection for existing development within the flood plain (i.e., past poor planning decisions)

- Three regional dams and reservoirs, dykes, floodwalls, channels
- Flood monitoring and warning
 - 30 river level stations
 - 6 reservoir level stations
 - 25 rain gauges
 - Also measure air temperature, solar radiation, wind speed/ direction, water temperature, snow survey
 - Experience and judgement
- CA/ Municipal flood warning/ emergency response protocol
- Data management - WISKI hub
- Communications
- Twenty year capital maintenance plan budget of \$80 million

Evolution of UTRCA's Flood Management



Structures



Climate Change:

Have experienced changes in intensity, timing, frequency, i.e., isolated intense summer storms anytime, anywhere; no longer just spring rain on snow.

Current flood management system is adaptable to climate change and public needs but significant investment is required to update models, flood risk mapping, regulatory limits, service delivery, infrastructure operations, communications, and education programs.



St. Marys Floodwall

- Flood plain development restrictions and policies are the single most effective, efficient (low cost) means of minimizing flood risk (Section 28, regulations, PPS, Provincial Technical Guides).
- “Promoting safe development by keeping people and their property out of harm’s way.”
- Infrastructure is only a partial protection for poor development decisions from the past.

Flood Management Assessment - It Works and Why

- Areas impacted by flooding are predictable and avoidable if managed on a watershed basis.
- The UTRCA’s Flood Management System has been tried and tested for 60+ years. It works.
- Flood events with a more infrequent return period have occurred in Ontario with little to no significant damage as compared to other parts of Canada without similar watershed based flood management systems (e.g., Saugenay, Calgary).
- The UTRCA and Ontario’ success:
 - Who:** CA leadership, municipalities, province, federal government.
 - How:** Watershed based, local decision making, cost sharing.
 - What:** System of monitoring, warning, emergency response, infrastructure, infrastructure maintenance and management, infrastructure operations, flood plain development regulations, land use planning, land ownership, education and communications.

Cost Sharing: St. Marys Floodwall Example

\$395,000	NDMP (National Disaster Mitigation Program)	37.4%
\$427,815	WECI (Water & Erosion Control Infrastructure Program)	40.5%
\$233,932	Town of St. Marys Levy & Reserves	22.1%
\$1,056,747	Total Project Budget	



Fanshawe Dam & Reservoir, December 2008 Flood

Other/ Questions

Contact Information

Ian Wilcox, General Manager
Upper Thames River Conservation Authority
1424 Clarke Road, London, Ontario N5V 5B9
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fyi

August/September
2019



www.thamesriver.on.ca

Twitter [@UTRCAMarketing](https://twitter.com/UTRCAMarketing)

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New Accessible Facilities at Wildwood and Fanshawe Conservation Areas

New Dock Improves Accessibility at Wildwood

A new accessible dock was installed on July 27 at Wildwood Conservation Area near St. Marys and Stratford. The canoe and kayak launch is available for use by all ages, abilities, and skill level. The docking side consists of one spot available for an owner/operator of a pontoon boat and one spot for boating accessible pick up and drop off.



Wildwood's new accessible dock is designed for pontoon boats (top photo), canoes and kayaks.

The next steps include installing signage to outline the proper use of the dock and building a path that leads directly to it. This dock is one of the first in Ontario.

The feedback about the new accessible dock both online and in person has been incredible and Superintendent Paul Switzer reports that it is getting lots of use already!

Photos: <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmGifjBw>

Contact: [Paul Switzer](mailto:Paul.Switzer@utrc.ca), Superintendent, Wildwood CA

Accessible Trail at Fanshawe Pond

There's a new accessible trail at Fanshawe Pond! The accessible trail starts from the boat launch area, near the reservoir, and extends past the pond to the wheelchair accessible dock, which was installed in 2018. The trail is part of a larger improvement project around the pond, which has included removing an invasive plant species (*Phragmites*) and installing the accessible dock.



The new accessible trail at the pond in Fanshawe CA.

In order to create the trail, vegetation was removed and the existing trail was widened, straightened and graded. A spillway and small boardwalk were installed, and chips and dust were laid to finish the trail. This fall, shrubs and trees will be planted to restore vegetation along the trail.

Visitors to Fanshawe CA and participants in the Outdoor Education programs will all benefit from the new trail. Thank you to all the UTRCA staff who helped make this project a success!



The new trail provides access to the dock, which was installed last year.

Funding for the accessible trail and pond project was provided by the Government of Canada's Enabling Accessibility Grant, Nature London, and TD Friends of the Environment.

Photos: <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmGhYNSR>

Contact: [Karlee Flear](#), Community Education Supervisor

Sharing the Knowledge

The UTRCA has been working closely with professors from the University of Waterloo to help tackle the issue of phosphorus losses from farmland in the Thames River watershed. On August 28, Conservation Services staff co-hosted an information workshop and field tour for Certified Crop Advisors and agency staff. The day was attended by more than 50 people who learned about the latest research on the contributions of phosphorus to watercourses from agriculture tile flow vs. overland flow.

The issue is important to understand in order to develop and recommend practical solutions to nutrient loss and subsequent water quality problems in the Thames River and Lake Erie. The group spent the afternoon touring three research and demonstration sites in the Medway Creek watershed, north of London.

Photos: <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmGFAKgu>

Contact: [Craig Merkley](#), Conservation Services Specialist



Mike Funk explains how automatic water sampling equipment is monitoring the stream that drains this subwatershed, which is being used to test how cover crops can be used to improve soil health and reduce phosphorus loss to the creek.



Happy Fish!

Students from the Junior Achievement Day Camp in London helped to varnish Stream of Dreams fish at CC Carrothers Public School and St. Sebastian's Catholic School in August. Now these fish will safely swim through another winter, protected from the elements!

Contact: [Linda Smith](#), Community Partnership Specialist

Trees for a Changing Climate

In 2011, the Forest Gene Conservation Association, Oxford County, and the UTRCA established a bur oak assisted migration trial plot. The trial is located on a 2 hectare piece of property owned by Oxford County at the Salford Landfill.

Assisted migration is one strategy to try to ensure we have resilient forests in the future. As our climate continues to warm, the fear is that the trees will not be able to adapt fast enough. We are already seeing that effect on white spruce in southern Ontario. Warmer temperatures, severe weather, and droughts will impact the trees' ability to flower and produce viable seeds.

Assisted migration is the movement of strategically selected tree seed from milder climates to areas expected to have similar conditions in the near future. The Salford trial plot compares bur oak from local seed sources to bur oak from Pennsylvania and Tennessee. Will oaks from these warmer climates be better adapted?



The thinking is that they will. The site will then become a bur oak seed orchard providing seed for future reforestation efforts in southern Ontario.

Contact: [John Enright](#), Forester

In August, a sign was erected recognizing the Oxford County Bur Oak Seed Orchard for a Changing Climate.



Roots, which help stabilize the soil, and the above ground plant cover all help to reduce soil erosion.

Conservation Services - What We Do

Cover Crops (a big piece of the puzzle)

On average, 350 tonnes of phosphorus washes down the Thames River every year, mainly from agricultural sources; 80% of that loss occurs over the non-growing season (November-April).

Conservation Services Program

The UTRCA's Conservation Services staff work with farmers to address soil and water quality problems by encouraging best management practices, including:

- Conservation/reduced tillage, crop rotation, and cover crops,
- Erosion control structures, and
- Land retirement through tree planting or wetland creation.

Cover crops are gaining popularity in the agricultural community, and Conservation Services staff have also increased their focus on cover crops in their day-to-day promotion, presentations, and field tours.



A cover crop that is aerial seeded into standing corn has a longer growing period following the corn harvest.

Cover Crops 101

Cover crops are typically established following the harvest of the main cash crop. They protect farmland from soil erosion by stabilizing the soil and keeping the ground covered during the non-growing season.

Cover crops also provide many other benefits, including:

- Increased soil health,
- Enhanced water infiltration,
- Nutrient cycling,
- Yield benefits,
- Weed suppression, and
- Feed source for livestock.



545 kg of phosphorus moved past this monitoring shed in the Upper Medway in less than three days.

What We Have Learned

Water quality data from the Upper Medway Subwatershed Project (2015-2018) and long-term monitoring throughout the watershed has shown that cover crops are the most suitable practice to reduce sediment and nutrient loss from agricultural land. The Upper Medway subwatershed serves as a unique area for extension professionals, academia and farmers to learn together about the



To increase our understanding of cover crops, Mike Funk and Tatianna Lozier have been visiting with farmers who have experience using various species of cover crops.

different ways to use and manage cover crops. Continued work in the Upper Medway will provide data on the link between water quality and agronomic benefits, which is an important piece often missing from the conversation.

Ramping Up Our Knowledge

Cover crops are most commonly planted after winter wheat harvest in late summer. We are now encouraging farmers to include cover crops after every crop (corn/soybean) in the rotation; however, this can be challenging for farmers. For example, establishing a cover crop after corn is difficult due to the short fall growing window. Innovative methods, such as aerial seeding, seek to overcome this barrier by getting the cover crop seeded and established before the corn is harvested.

Ways in which we are learning and sharing knowledge include:

- UTRCA events (landowner workshops, tailgate meetings),
- Regional events (Western Fair Farm Show),
- Landowner site visits,
- Information displays and presentations, and
- Academia involvement (partnering in research).



Japanese Knotweed is an aggressive semi-woody perennial plant that is native to eastern Asia. In the 1800s, it was introduced to North America as an ornamental species. The plant is often mistaken for bamboo, but is easily distinguished by its broad leaves and its ability to survive Ontario winters.

Japanese Knotweed is especially persistent due to its vigorous root system, which can spread nearly 10 metres from the parent stem and even grow through concrete and asphalt. This invader is very persistent and once it becomes established, is incredibly difficult to control. It spreads quickly, creating dense thickets that degrade wildlife habitats. It also reduces plant biodiversity by competing with other native vegetation.

The municipality’s Environment, Forestry and Trails Committee identified a concern with Japanese Knotweed and requested municipal funding through the 2019 budget process. The UTRCA was contacted for assistance with mapping the extent of the knotweed patches and preparation of a management plan.

UTRCA staff are cutting and treating the invasive species to limit regeneration. The site will be restored with native plant species in the future.

Photos: <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmGYXDzA>

[More information on Japanese Knotweed](#)

Contact: [Jay Ebel](#), Forestry Technician



The Future

More effort is still needed to achieve water quality targets. Boots on the ground and partnerships are key components. Conservation Services staff plan to start a group with progressive farmers and Certified Crop Advisors to develop tools for extension/outreach with respect to adoption of cover crops in the watershed.

Contact: [Tatianna Lozier](#), Agricultural Soil & Water Quality Technician

Invasive Species Targeted in Mitchell

The UTRCA is working with the Municipality of West Perth to remove invasive Japanese Knotweed from parkland along the North Thames River in Mitchell.

Board of Directors – On the Agenda

The next UTRCA Board of Directors meeting will be on September 24, 2019, at the Watershed Conservation Centre, located in Fanshawe Conservation Area. Draft agendas and approved minutes are posted on the “Board Agendas & Minutes” page at www.thamesriver.on.ca.

- Community and Corporate Service Unit Orientation
- Finance Training - Depreciation
- Revised 2020 Budget Concepts Memo
- Administration and Enforcement - Section 28
- Bill 108 and Other Provincial Updates
- Provincial Flood Advisor Consultation/Regional Meeting

Contact: [Michelle Viglianti](#), Administrative Assistant