

UPPER THAMES RIVER

CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

September 14, 2017

NOTICE OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

DATE: TUESDAY, September 26, 2017

TIME: 9:00 A.M. – 11:40 A.M.

LOCATIONS: HARRINGTON MILL & WILDWOOD CONSERVATION AREA

AGENDA:	TIME
1. Meet at Harrington CA for a tour of the Harrington Mill	9:00am
2. Drive to Wildwood Conservation Area	10:00am
3. Approval of Agenda	10:30am
4. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest	
5. Confirmation of Payment as Required Through Statutory Obligations	
6. Minutes of the Previous Meeting: Tuesday August 22, 2017	
7. Business Arising from the Minutes	10:35am
(a) UTRCA Minimum Wage Concerns Letter (I.Wilcox)(Doc: FIN #675)(Letter attached) (5 minutes)	
8. Business for Approval	10:40am
(a) Request for Use of Capital Maintenance Reserve (J.Howley)(Doc: CA# 3581) (Report attached)(5 minutes)	
(b) Water Control Structure Consultant Selection (C.Tasker)(Doc: FC #1117) (Report attached)(5 minutes)	
9. Closed Session – In Camera	10:50am
(a) Legal Matter Relating to the Fanshawe Cottages	

(J.Howley)(Doc: CA #3573)
(Report attached)(5 minutes)

- (b) Property Matter Relating to Glengowan
(A.Shivas)(Doc: L&F #3524)
(Report attached)(5 minutes)


10. Business for Information 11:00am

- (a) Administration and Enforcement - Section 28
(T. Annett) (Doc: ENVP #5011)
(Report attached)(5 minutes)
- (b) Source Protection Update
(J.Allain)(Report attached)(5 minutes)
- (c) Update on Harrington and Embro EAs
(C.Tasker)(Doc: FC #1116)
(Report attached)(15 minutes)
- (d) 2018 Municipal Budget Workshop
(I.Wilcox)(Report)(5 minutes)
- (e) Rowing Centre Update
(I.Wilcox)(Verbla)(5 minutes)

11. September FYI 11:35am

12. Other Business (Including Chair and General
Manager's Comments)

13. Adjournment 11:40am



Ian Wilcox, General Manager

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

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

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2017

Members Present:	A.Hopkins	S.McCall-Hanlon
	T.Birtch	H.McDermid
	M.Blackie	A.Murray
	M.Blosh	M.Ryan
	R.Chowen	J.Salter
	S.Levin	G.Way
	N.Manning	B. Petrie

Regrets:	T.Jackson	G.Inglis
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Solicitor:	G.Inglis
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Staff:	C.Harrington	C.Tasker
	J.Howley	M.Viglianti
	B.Mackie	I.Wilcox
	A.Shivas	K.Wilkie

1. Meet at Harrington CA for a tour of the Harrington Mill

Members of the Harrington and Area Community Association gave the Board of Directors a tour of the Harrington Grist Mill.

2. Drive to Wildwood Conservation Areas

3. Approval of Agenda

M.Blackie called the meeting to order at 9:25am on September 26, 2017. In respect to the visitors from the Harrington community, the Chair suggested the Harrington and Embro EA update be moved to after the approval of the minutes.

T.Birtch moved – R.Chowen seconded:-

“RESOLVED that the item 10(c) Update on Harrington and Embro EAs be moved between item 6 and 7 on the agenda.”

CARRIED.

B.Petrie moved – S.McCall-Hanlon seconded:-

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

CARRIED.

4. 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.

5. Confirmation of Payment as Required Through Statutory Obligations

The Chair inquired whether the Authority had met its statutory obligations in the payment of the Accounts Payable. The members were advised the Authority has met its statutory obligations.

6. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

August 22, 2017

S.McCall-Hanlon moved – S.Levin seconded:-

“RESOLVED that the UTRCA Board of Directors approve the Board of Directors’ minutes dated August 22, 2017 as posted on the Members’ web-site.”

CARRIED.

10. c) Harrington Update

C. Tasker presented his report dated September 25th, 2017. At this time Staff are not at a stage to bring any recommendations forward but are currently working on a revised process. The active links in the report will be provided to the Board and all are encouraged to read the documents and form their own opinions.

Conservation Ontario was consulted and stated that the Community Liaison Committee (CLC) was not mandatory, but UTRCA Staff are still working on this matter. While the CLC was not created, staff believe the intent of the CLC has been met by other measures, but are open to options.

C.Tasker gave credit to the Harrington and Area Community Association (HACA) for getting the Community involved and out to the public meetings.

A questions was raised as to how Embro could be integrated into this as there are advantages and disadvantages to using one CLC group for both areas. The purpose of the CLC is to represent all views; Municipal, Environmental, Local, First Nations, etc.

Based on communication with the Province, a Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report (CHER) should have been completed.

The next step for Staff is to re-activate the steering committee to meet and discuss next steps, which will happen before Staff come to the Board with recommendations. The Steering Committee will consist of I.Wilcox, C.Tasker, M.Ryan, and one other representative from Zorra. In October Staff will present the steps forward to the Board.

C.Tasker presented the position statements provided by the Harrington and Area Community Association attached to the report dated September 25th, 2017.

Concerns were raised around the reasons behind creating a CLC and that one should be created only if it would add new information and value to the process. C.Tasker responded that this will be the discussion the Steering Committee will be having. Concerns were also raised around impacts the extended timeline of this project would have on the need for a Dam Safety Evaluation. C.Tasker responded that depending on how long this process takes, interim measures may need to be taken.

The Board asked for an analysis from staff on how these two items got missed, what corrective action is being taken so it doesn't happen again, and how to move forward. I.Wilcox commended HACA for being very respectful when presenting their concerns to Zorra council.

It was noted that it will be important for the members of the CLC to know exactly what their role is in the process.

M.Ryan gave an example of important information that would have been known by all parties had there been a CLC in place, indicating that there could be other information that was missed due to the lack of a CLC.

M.Ryan moved – B.Petrie seconded:-

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

CARRIED.

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

- (a) UTRCA Minimum Wage Concerns Letter
(Letter attached)

The letter was too late for first round comments. It will be transferred to a holding file and will be considered if they accept comments after Second Reading. Given the time constraints there was no time to consult other Conservation Authorities or Conservation Ontario.

G.Way moved – seconded N.Manning:-

“RESOLVED that the Board of Directors accept the letter as presented.”

CARRIED.

8. Business for Approval

- (a) Request for Use of Capital Maintenance Reserve
(Report attached)

J.Howley presented her report and added that the only item not considered in the price listed for the culvert replacement is the paving.

S.McCall-Hanlon recommended an organization called SWIFT in regards to the proposed fiber optic cable installation. She will pass on their information to staff. Quadro was the only company to provide a quote as they are the only company that services this area.

The Board raised concerns about using Capital Maintenance reserve money for capital projects. It was suggested that this issue be brought before the Finance Committee. Staff agreed with the Board that Asset Management Plans are something that are needed for all areas of our business where currently there is only one in place for Flood Control. There are some Asset Management Plans in progress but they will not be complete in time for the 2018 Draft Budget. It was clarified that the shed and road projects were both included in the revised budget, only the internet project is new.

S.Levin moved – N.Manning seconded:-

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

CARRIED.

- (b) Water Control Structure Consultant Selection
(Repot attached)

Based on questions from the Board, staff explained that this project is being done in-house and not by a consultant because of the expertise of staff in this particular area. UTRCA staff routinely design and implement projects like the one outlined in the report.

J.Salter moved – M.Blosh seconded:-

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

CARRIED.

9. Closed Session – In Camera

There being a property matter to discuss,

H.McDermid moved – G.Way seconded:-

“RESOLVED that the Board of Directors adjourn to Closed Session – In Camera.”

CARRIED.

Progress Reported

(a) Legal Matter Relating to the Fanshawe Cottages
(Report attached)

Legal matters relating to the Fanshawe Cottages were discussed.

B.Petrie moved – N.Manning seconded:-

“RESOLVED that the Board of Directors approve the recommendation as presented in the Closed Session report.”

CARRIED.

(b) Property Matter Relating to Glengowan
(Report attached)

Property matters relating to Glegowan were discussed.

S.Levin moved – B.Petrie seconded:-

“RESOLVED that the Board of Directors approve the recommendation for the disposition of 0.94 acres as

detailed in the Closed Session report.”

CARRIED.

M.Ryan moved – A.Hopkins seconded:-

“RESOLVED that the Board of Directors approve the recommendation for the disposition of 0.97 acres as detailed in the Closed Session report.”

CARRIED.

N.Manning moved – S.McCall-Hanlon seconded:-

“RESOLVED that the Board of Directors approve the recommendation for the disposition of 120.22 acres as detailed in the Closed Session report.”

CARRIED.

10. Business for Information

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

S.Levin moved – A.Hopkins seconded:-

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

CARRIED.

(b) Source Protection Update
(Report attached)

J.Allain gave an outline of her report. The flyer and other information have been shared with the Municipalities where the UTRCA is not the provider of risk management services.

M.Ryan moved – M.Blosh seconded:-

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

CARRIED.

(d) 2018 Municipal Budget Workshop
(Report attached)

S.Levin moved – S.McCall-Hanlon seconded:-

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

CARRIED.

In the past the UTRCA has hosted budget workshops later in the budget process, but due to poor attendance they were stopped. This was the first year that the UTRCA hosted a budget workshop before Staff had a draft budget created.

Board members who were present at the budget workshop presented their feedback and opinions on the event. A more detailed report of the opinions and questions expressed during the workshop will be provided to the Board at the October meeting.

(e) Rowing Centre Update

J.Howley informed the Board that the Women’s National Rowing Team will be leaving Fanshawe Reservoir to train out of Victoria, British Columbia. S.Levin spoke to a rower and found out they are leaving due to a change in the coaching situation.

There are currently four groups that row out of the Doug Wells Rowing Centre and each have individual agreements with the UTRCA under the umbrella of the London Rowing Society. The club house, rowing tower and viewing seats all belong to the London Rowing Society and the University of Western Ontario. The rowing lanes located in the reservoir belong to Rowing Canada and it is unclear if the existing clubs will continue to use that service or not.

UTRCA club fees are based on infrastructure and membership.

11. September FYI

The attached report was presented to the members for their information.

12. Other Business

The Conservation Ontario Biennial Tour hosted by the Credit Valley CA and Conservation Halton begins Sunday evening and M.Blackie, N. Manning, R.Chowen, I.Wilcox and M.Viglianti will be attending.

The Conservation Authorities Act review is now into its second reading. Conservation Ontario is hopeful it will be approved before the House rises in December.

I.Wilcox has been asked to sit as an alternate on the Service Delivery Review Committee and he will update the Board as the meetings proceed.

I. Wilcox informed the Board of a single species fish kill that happened on the Wildwood reservoir. It is estimate that 2,000+ carp died, but no other species of fish were affected. The internal theory is that the combined effects of the extreme heat, no wind and an algae bloom caused the dissolved oxygen levels in the lake to become critically low. There was no point source spill evident for this event.

Board members pointed out that this is a strong indicator of why we need the Targets.

The MOECC and the local Health Unit have all been involved since the event began. Wildwood Staff, along with other UTRCA Staff volunteers, have been working to clean up the dead carp from the lake and shoreline.

Staff will put together a communications plan to inform the member Municipalities of this event and provide some explanation. It was suggested that in the Communications Staff tie this event to the need for the Targets work.

13. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:30pm on a motion by B.Petrie.



Ian Wilcox
General Manager
Att.

M.Blackie, Authority Chair

"Inspiring a Healthy Environment"

September 8, 2017

Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs
c/o Eric Rennie, Committee Clerk
Procedural Services Branch
Legislative Assembly of Ontario
99 Wellesley Street West, Room 1405
Toronto, ON M7A 1A2

Dear Sir,

Regarding: Bill 148

We would appreciate you recording this letter and making it available to the Committee when next they meet to review Bill 148.

The Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) is a quasi-government organization governed by the Conservation Authorities Act and we concern ourselves with the health of the Upper Thames River watershed in all its aspects; source water monitoring and protection, mitigation of loss to property and people from flooding, species at risk, education and community engagement related to watershed awareness and opportunities for people to enjoy the great outdoors.

We are particularly concerned about the cost implications to our organization due to the legislation proposed by Bill 148.

Specifically, the impact of the proposed minimum wage increases will result in an 8.9% increase to our wage and payroll burden over the 2 years of the proposed changes – this coming at a time when a third of our funding is derived from municipalities that are struggling with infrastructure needs due to cuts in their transfer payments from the province. Our parks make significant use of seasonal staff; summer students and our tree-planting teams are paid at minimum wage.

Secondly, the on-call portion of the proposed legislation may add another 5% to our total wage costs. Because we manage flood control structures (3 major dams, many smaller dams, levees, channels and dykes) and because we serve the public on many of our conservation lands, we have staff on-call regularly for emergencies. The additional burden proposed by the 3 hours per day paid for on-call duty will become an onerous cost and may require an increase

in provincial transfer payment funding and user fees. Alternately, a reduction of staff and a commensurate reduction in service levels may have to be imposed.

Another important concern surrounds the rate of change proposed in the legislation. The size of the minimum wage increase combined with the rate at which it is to be implemented will make managing programs difficult. We would not like to envision a reduction in our ability to deliver on much needed programs related to clean water and a healthy environment.

Planning for our 2018 budget is very difficult without knowing if this legislation will be enacted and what the true cost will be to our \$20M programs. As a further complication, we have established contracts with many of our other funders, and those contracts can run up to 3 years. This duration would now work against us as existing contracts are set without recourse or room to absorb any increased costs for 2018 or beyond. We are a not-for-profit organization and have limited reserves to draw upon for operational purposes. A longer term phase-in would enable us to adapt to the proposed changes with fewer disruptions to program delivery.

While we support the concept of a living wage, it would be our preference to see smaller, more regular increases phased in over a longer period of time.

On behalf of the UTRCA Board of Directors,



Ian Wilcox,
General Manager

cc: Board of Directors, UTRCA

To: UTRCA Board of Directors
From: Jennifer Howley
Date: August 31, 2017
Subject: Request for use of Capital Maintenance Reserve

Agenda #: 8 (a)
Filename: P:\Users\vigilantim\Documents\GroupWise\3581-1.doc

Recommendation:

- 1. That the Board of Directors approves the use of \$60,000 of the Capital Maintenance Reserve for the culvert replacement at the entrance to Wildwood Conservation Area campground.**
- 2. That the Board of Directors approves the use of \$45,000 of the Capital Maintenance Reserve for the installation of fibre optic cable to Wildwood Conservation Area.**
- 3. That the Board of Directors approves the use of \$7,500 of the Capital Maintenance Reserve to replace a drinking water pump house within Fanshawe Conservation Area.**

Report:

At the August 2005 Board of Directors meeting, the following guidelines were approved regarding the use of the Capital Maintenance Levy for UTRCA projects:

Capital Maintenance Levy Guidelines:

- The capital maintenance levy will be used for priority Authority capital projects as identified by the Infrastructure Management Plan (or existing capital list until plan completion);
- The Board of Directors will approve all capital projects as a component of the UTRCA Budget at a Board of Directors meeting;
- Projects that support the broader Authority mandated programs are eligible for capital maintenance levy;
- The capital maintenance levy may be used exclusively or in combination with other funding sources to meet project costs;
- Staff wages are an eligible expense (design, tendering, project management, labour, motor pool).

The balance of the Capital Maintenance Reserve is \$336,629 as of September 1, 2017.

Wildwood Conservation Area Culvert Replacement

The Ralph Murray Drain traverses Wildwood Conservation Area. Vehicles cross over the watercourse at the entrance to the campground sections A and B, which is the only vehicle access to the main campground. The existing crossing consists of three arch culverts embedded in concrete with an asphalt top. The crossing is quite low topographically, with the road following the natural slope. The culverts are undersized compared to the volume of water flowing through the drain, resulting in the crossing often flooding during rain events, creating a hazard for people and vehicles.

The photos below were taken on the July 2013 long weekend. Staff had to close the road to all traffic and pedestrians until the water levels receded. The flooding also lifted the asphalt. Fortunately, there were no emergencies in the campground during the event as first responders would have been delayed.



In the fall of 2013, Conservation Services staff hired a contractor to remove sediment upstream and downstream of the culverts to increase flow, and add stone rip rap with erosion fabric. These measures were a temporary fix but are not a long term solution. The crossing floods less frequently since this work was completed, but a significant rain event in the Trout Creek watershed would create a similar situation as that of 2013.

Wildwood CA staff have been working again with Conservation Services staff to resolve the problem altogether. Staff is considering and has designed a large diameter corrugated steel pipe (CSP) with the ability to safely convey regional storm events and allow for easy fish and aquatic wildlife passage. The pipe would be sized at 2700 mm diameter or be of an arch-shape at 3000mm wide x 2200 mm in height. It is proposed that the pipe be embedded about 25% of its diameter into the stream bottom to enable the construction of a natural channel through its length. The ends of the pipe would be cut at 45° to allow for better light penetration.

Staff request the use of the Capital Maintenance Reserve for this project. The estimated project cost (upset limit) is \$60,000. The project would commence after the Conservation Area closes for the season.

Installation of Fibre Optic Cable for Wildwood Conservation Area

Internet connection at Wildwood Conservation Area has long been a concern and over the last three years has become particularly frustrating for staff. The wireless Internet connection cannot sustain the speed required and is very much underpowered. To add to the problem, Quadro, the service provider, cannot increase the speed due to demand in the area. The inadequate connection impacts the staff working on line on a day to day basis, as well as the CAMIS reservation system during the operating season.

Over the past few months, Wildwood CA staff have explored various options to rectify the situation. Installing P2P through Quadro or Rogers was considered. Although P2P may improve the speed, it is not as fast as fibre and sight lines between the points are of concern. P2P would be a temporary solution with ongoing expensive maintenance and equipment replacement costs due to necessary sight lines.

Quadro has since provided a quote for \$49,696.00 (\$56,156.00 including tax) to install fibre optic cable into the park. This price includes fibre construction, installation, equipment, materials and set up. The cable would run from Perth Road 115 along Perth Line 9 into the conservation area registration office, which is a distance of approximately 3 km. Although the upfront costs are high, this option would address

all of the issues being experienced with the current connection and would not require further investment when compared to the other options.

Staff have asked CAMIS if they would contribute to the investment, as they will also benefit from the improvement. CAMIS has offered \$5000.00 towards the installation and will pay half of the \$232.00 monthly cost.

Staff are requesting \$45,000.00 from the Capital Maintenance Reserve for this project. If approved, the installation would take place immediately.

Drinking Water Pump House at Fanshawe CA

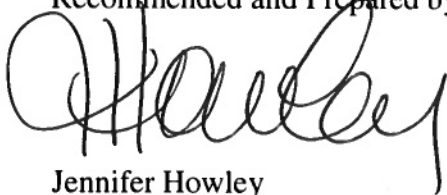
The pump house in question is located in the Woodlands nightly camping section near the Oak Group Shelter. The pole structure has been there for over 25 years and is in dire need of replacement.

Prior to municipal water installation, this building was used as a pump house for Well System F2. The building now houses a water meter to track Pioneer Village water usage and a backflow preventer on the line. It can also be used as a chlorine injection site if municipal water levels are not adequate at that point.

Staff propose replacing the old pump house with a framed structure that is insulated and heated to prevent frozen water lines during the winter. The walls and roof will be steel clad, similar to other pump houses on the property. The existing cement floor does not need to be replaced. The construction will be completed by UTRCA Facility Management Technician Matt McCutcheon, with the assistance of an electrician.

Staff are requesting the use of the Capital Maintenance Reserve for this project. The estimated cost (upper limit) for the new pump house is \$7500.00. The project would be completed this fall.

Recommended and Prepared by:



Jennifer Howley
Manager, Conservation Areas

To: UTRCA Board of Directors
From: Chris Tasker, Manager, Water & Information Management
Date: September 13, 2017 **Agenda #:** 8 b)
Subject: Water Control Structure Consultant Selection **Filename:** FC #1117
- St. Marys Floodwall Rehabilitation
- Pittock Dam Embankment Restoration

Recommendation:

It is recommended that:

- 1. The Board authorize staff to enter into an agreement for professional services with BM Ross & Associates Ltd. for the St. Marys Floodwall Rehabilitation Project which has received 2017-18 WECI funding along with 2017-19 NDMP funding.**
- 2. The Board authorize staff to self-perform the design and contract administration for the Pittock Dam Embankment Restoration Phase 1 in lieu of awarding to BM Ross & Associates Ltd as approved at the Board Meeting held August 22, 2017.**

Purpose:

The St. Marys Floodwall Rehabilitation Project was mistakenly omitted from the Memo to the Board dated August 10, 2017 for Agenda # 6a regarding the consultant selection discussion at the Board Meeting held August 22/2017. This report requests the Board review this recommendation as part of the consultant selections that were approved at the Board Meeting held August 22, 2017 for projects with subsequent phases prior to the upcoming issuance of the revised policy.

Background:

The UTRCA entered into an engineering agreement with BM Ross & Associates Ltd. on September 29, 2014 for Inspection Services of the St. Marys Floodwall. BM Ross produced the St. Marys Floodwall Inspection Report dated March 2, 2015 as per the agreement which included the following budget cost summary for a future rehabilitation project:

#	Activity Description	Engineering	Construction	Totals
7.1	Toe Protection - Sections 3 & 8	\$8,700.00	\$42,000.00	\$50,700.00
7.2	Restore Sidewalks & Railings - Sections 2 & 3	\$2,000.00	\$15,800.00	\$17,800.00
7.3	Rehabilitate Wall Face - Section 10	\$9,500.00	\$48,300.00	\$57,800.00
7.4	Rehabilitate Wall Face - Section 9	\$22,000.00	\$166,200.00	\$188,200.00
7.5	Rehabilitate Wall Face - Sections 1, 2, 3 & 5	\$22,000.00	\$289,500.00	\$311,500.00
7.6	Repair Concrete - Sections 4 & 6	\$7,000.00	\$24,500.00	\$31,500.00
	Totals (not including HST)	\$71,200.00	\$586,300.00	\$657,500.00

The respective budget cost summary was the basis for the funding applications to WECI and the NDMP for the pending St. Marys Floodwall Rehabilitation Project. The UTRCA has received WECI funding for 2017-18 in the amount of \$72,500 along with NDMP funding for 2017-19 in the amount of \$395,000. The NDMP funding is for a maximum of 50% of the project value which results in a minimum project value of \$790,000 in order to utilize all of the NDMP funding for 2017-19.

Upon further review of the project scope for the Pittock Dam Embankment Restoration Phase 1, the UTRCA feels they have the necessary resources to perform the design in-house along with the project management. In addition, the UTRCA is also considering utilizing its own manpower for the construction of the project.

Discussion:

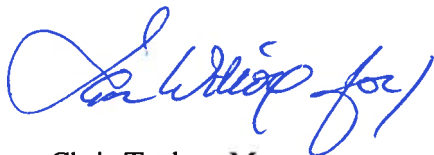
The minimum project value of \$790,000 in order to utilize the full amount of the NDMP funding for 2017-19 is greater than the total budget cost outlined by BM Ross in the St. Marys Floodwall Inspection Report dated March 2, 2015. The UTRCA wishes to utilize the expertise and knowledge gained by BM Ross to date on the St. Marys Floodwall to provide the design and contract administration for the floodwall rehabilitation and also increase the project scope and budget accordingly.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board authorize the UTRCA to enter into an agreement for professional services with BM Ross & Associates Ltd. for the St. Marys Floodwall Rehabilitation Project on a timely basis upon receipt of a detailed proposal from BM Ross if deemed acceptable upon review by the UTRCA.

It is also recommended that the Board authorize the UTRCA to self-perform the design and contract administration for the Pittock Dam Embankment Restoration Phase 1 in lieu of awarding to BM Ross & Associates Ltd. Any cost savings can be distributed to other UTRCA projects with budget shortfalls that have also received 2017-18 WECI funding.

Recommended By:



Chris Tasker, Manager
Water & Information Management

Prepared By:



David Charles, Supervisor
Water Control Structures

To: Chair and Members of the UTRCA Board of Directors
From: Tracy Annett, Manager – Environmental Planning and Regulations
Date: September 13, 2017 **Agenda #:** 10 (a)
Subject: Administration and Enforcement – Sect. 28 Status Report – **Filename:** Document
Development, Interference of Wetlands and Alteration to **ENVP 5011**
Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation

This report 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 10, 2017 to September 12, 2017.

Application #92/17

City of Stratford

Mornington Street south of Vivian Street – City of Stratford

- proposed installation of the remainder of the Mornington Street Sanitary Trunk Sewer Extension (previously commenced in 2014 but temporarily abandoned due to dewatering constraints).
- plans prepared by the City of Stratford and exp Services Inc.
- staff approved and permit issued August 29, 2017.

Application #99/17

Skinner & Skinner Architects

763 Clearview Crescent – City of London

- proposed house construction
- geotechnical investigation required to confirm suitable development limits
- Golder Associates prepared geotechnical report, with Strik, Baldinelli, Moniz and Skinner & Skinner Architects preparing construction drawings
- staff approved and permit issued August 11, 2017

Application #123/17

Distinctive Homes London Ltd.

150 Paul Street – City of London

- proposed house addition in West London proposed Special Policy Area (SPA)
- plans prepared by D.C. Buck Engineering
- staff approved and permit issued August 11, 2017

Application #128/17

Ivy Homes Ltd.

31 Wyatt Street – City of London

- proposed house addition in West London proposed Special Policy Area (SPA)
- floodproofing drawings prepared by D. C. Buck Engineering
- staff approved and permit issued August 15, 2017

Application #129/17

Chris and Lainie Hanlon

465107 Curries Road, Woodstock – Norwich Township

- proposed construction of 40'x36' shed/garage
- staff approved and permit issued June 30, 2017

Application #131/17

Dan Wright – Brescolt Construction

2327 Springridge Dr. – City of London

- proposed new inground pool for Robert and Jessi Tremblett
- staff approved and permit issued August 22, 2017

Application #132/17

Barbara Umbelina

948 Crumlin Side Road. – City of London

- proposed new house construction
- staff approved and permit issued August 23, 2017

Application #134/17

Oxford County

59 George Johnson Boulevard – Town of Ingersoll

- proposed expansion to existing county water-wastewater operations/distribution shop.
- plans prepared by R.J. Burnside & Associates Limited
- staff approved and permit extension issued August 24, 2017.

Application #135/17

Fine Home Design Inc.

920 Crumlin Road – City of London

- approval required for new house construction on lot created through severance process
- lot grading plans prepared by AGM Engineering and septic system design prepared by Bos Engineering & Environmental Services
- staff approved and permit issued August 28, 2017

Application #136/17

Township of East Zorra Tavistock

Roi Drain

- proposed culvert replacement
- staff approved and permit issued August 30, 2017

Application #138/17

Roger Pinter

68 & 70 Victoria Street – Town of Ingersoll

- approval required for construction of house overhangs and deck
- staff approved and permit issued September 5, 2017

Reviewed by:



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

Prepared by:



Karen Winfield
Land Use Regulations Officer



Mark Snowsell
Land Use Regulations Officer



Brent Verscheure
Land Use Regulations Officer



Cari Ramsey
Env. Regulations Technician

Report to Upper Thames River Conservation Authority Board of Directors

Cc SP Management Committee

Date September 8, 2017

From Jenna Allain, Source Protection Coordinator

Re: Drinking Water Source Protection Education Campaign and Risk Management Services

Purpose

To provide information to the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority Board of Directors about an upcoming source protection education campaign and the status of our Risk Management Services Agreement renewal.

Education Campaign Targeting Small Quantities of Hazardous Waste

The Source Protection Plan contains an education and outreach policy specifying the use of an education program to target the handling and storage of hazardous chemicals, known as Dense Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids, in concentrations typical of household use. Source Protection staff have developed an educational campaign that will fulfill this policy requirement. The door hanger flyers shown below will be delivered door to door to residential properties in wellhead protection areas.



The flyers have a peel off magnet attached (shown below) that references a new website created as part of the campaign. The flyers will be delivered throughout the month of September to all residential properties in wellhead protection areas where UTRCA is providing risk management services. The flyers to be delivered in the City of London will vary slightly to reflect the fact that the groundwater wells are emergency supply only. A promotional video is also being produced as part of the campaign.



Risk Management Services Renewal

UTRCA has been providing risk management services for seven municipalities within the Thames-Sydenham Region since 2014. The service agreement was for an initial period of three years (September 1st, 2014 – August 31st, 2017). Agreement amendments have recently been signed to renew the services for an additional three years and four months covering the period of September 1st, 2017 to December 31st, 2020. The Municipality of Chatham-Kent, the City of London, the Township of Perth East, the Town of St. Marys, the City of Stratford, and the Municipality of West Perth have renewed services with UTRCA, while the Township of Perth South has chosen not to renew the agreement.

Prepared by:

Jenna Allain
Source Protection Coordinator

To: UTRCA Board of Directors
From: Chris Tasker
Date: September 8, 2017 **Agenda #:** 10 c)
Subject: Update on Embro and Harrington Dam EAs **Filename:** FC Doc #1116

Background:

Background on these projects is available in the report to the June 2017 board of Directors Meeting. An update was provided to the board at the August meeting. This report is intended to further update the board on progress since the last board meeting.

Update:

At the September 5, 2017 Zorra Council meeting, municipal staff presented a report regarding options for financing the preferred alternatives for Harrington and Embro Dams as well as the reconstruction alternatives for Harrington Dam. The report supported a recommendation for the preferred alternatives from a financial perspective. This report was presented to Council but not fully discussed before the time came to hear from a community delegation (Harrington and Area Community Association (HACA)).

HACA had been requested by Council to provide further details regarding their pledge to find funding alternatives for dam reconstruction; however, during the meeting, HACA requested additional time to consider options and report back. HACA also presented what they saw as two significant deficiencies in the Environmental Assessment process: the absence of a Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report (CHER), and failure to create a Community Liaison Committee.

Based on their review of the Class EA process, the HACA delegation noted the requirement to produce a Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report (CHER) and/or a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA). The CHER would determine whether the dam and/or pond are cultural resources, whether or not they form a cultural heritage landscape with the mill, or whether removal of the dam would impact the cultural heritage attributes of the mill. The HIA would identify mitigation measures should the preferred alternative harm the heritage attributes of any of the heritage resources or landscape. The Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS) makes the final determination as to whether or not this report is required. At this point, the MTCS has responded to an inquiry from HACA indicating that the report will need to be developed. Our consultant is pursuing a proposal from a qualified professional to fulfill the requirements of the Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report and, if necessary, the Heritage Impact Assessment.

HACA also identified the unfulfilled need for creation of a Community Liaison Committee (CLC). While there was considerable engagement of the local and broader community through three well attended public information centres, contact group, public notices, tours to other dams which had been reconstructed and decommissioned, web posting of all reports and materials, Board and Council delegations and extended consultation periods, a formal Community Liaison Committee was never created. While the CLC is not required where there is not enough interest to form a formal committee, the extensive participation of the community in this EA process confirms a CLC would have been justified.

Formally, the CLC is designed to:

- Assist the Conservation Authority in obtaining public input
- Identify items of concern

- Provide input on concerns
- Co-host meeting to resolve concerns
- Review Part II Order (bump-up) requests
- Meet to discuss an ESR, if one is needed, provide input and address comments received

In addition to its functions as part of the class EA process, the CLC may also be instrumental in influencing aspects of a master plan for the Conservation Area as recommended in the draft EA report. While the community has described plans for the CA and mill, much of the detail is still being refined. Details such as the mill restoration plans have been described throughout the EA process; however the community is still refining the business case and operational plan for the living museum, water power needs of the restored mill and other desired improvements to the CA. A master plan for the area would assemble and summarize the detail available in plans being developed by the community.

The HACA delegation also indicated that the County of Oxford had established a heritage interest in the Harrington Pond. The municipality is looking into this suggestion and its implications.

UTRCA Staff take the community's concerns seriously and are working with the project consultant to better understand any deviations from the Class EA prescribed process. If it is confirmed that there has been an oversight on the part of the UTRCA, staff will work with the Board to address shortcomings and ensure the process and its subsequent recommendations are fully in compliance with the Class process and that all parties can have confidence in final recommendations. Discussions are on-going and it is expected additional information will be available and presented at the September Board meeting. In the meantime it is recommended that the Board defer any decision regarding formal posting of the Environmental Assessment.

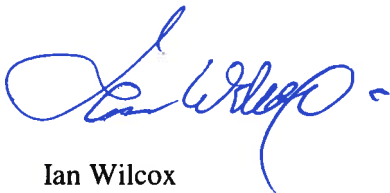
Next Steps:

- Determine the cost of the CHER and any resulting HIA.
- Explore the formation of a CLC for Harrington and/or Embro.
- Consider the benefits to the County and any potential for sharing in the cost of projects which maintain the heritage features designated by the county.
- Explore how these oversights occurred and consider ways to ensure similar occurrences don't happen in the future.
- Report back to Zorra Council at their October meeting.
- Further update the Board at its next meeting.

Prepared by



Chris Tasker, Manager,
Water and Information Management



Ian Wilcox
General Manager

To: UTRCA Board of Directors
From: Chris Tasker
Date: September 25, 2017 **Agenda #:** 10 c)
Subject: Update on Embro and Harrington Dam EAs **Filename:** FC Doc #1123

Background:

This is an additional update to the report included in the meeting package dated September 8. The following is intended to update the board on ongoing work to consider the current situation and identify possible next steps. The information provided in this report will be considered in developing a recommendation for the Board's October meeting. In addition, further discussions with the Conservation Ontario, the consultants, Zorra Township and the community are necessary to ensure any revisions to the EA process will fulfill our obligations and ensure confidence in the EA.

Update:

Community Liaison Committee

The [Conservation Ontario class Environmental Assessment](#) describes the public consultation to be followed. The process relies on required notices to engage the public and provide input to the process which form the minimum consultation requirements and leaves discretion to the proponent. Where a project may be contentious additional consultation may be advisable and would be considered in any bump (part II) request. In addition to the required notices the class EA includes the creation of a Community Liaison Committee as described in 4.1.5 and further outlined in Appendix 1. Although CO indicated that it is not a requirement and previous projects reviewed were completed without a CLC, the use of words such as “shall” identify this as an expectation if interest is there to support the formation of the CLC. It is evident in the case of Harrington that there is enough community interest to support the formation of a CLC and at a minimum an invitation should have made for expressions of interest in a CLC with the initial posting.

The CLC has a few functions in the process as outlined in the class EA.

- Identify items of public concern with regard to the design of alternatives
- Disseminate information and provide direct input to the CA
- Co-host with CA meetings to facilitate resolution of concerns related to the proposed work
- Review any part II Order requests and attempt to resolve them before they are referred to the Minister for a decision
- Where appropriate provide an assessment of the effectiveness of the Class EA process and identify possible improvements
- If a Environmental Study Report were to be required they would be provided an opportunity to review and comment on the report. Also if a bump up request were to result in a part 2 order to undertake a full EA the CLC would be

The role of the CLC is to reach out and maintain contact with interested persons and aboriginal communities. In this EA process to date the CA reached out directly to the public in many ways in addition to the required notices.

- 3 Public Information Sessions were held with relatively good attendance and engagement of the public
- tour of other dam restoration and decommissioning projects with 2 public attending
- additional meetings held with interested parties
- Comment periods extended to allow for full public consideration and feedback
- Council and board meeting allowed for additional engagement

The extensive feedback from the community which is well documented in the current draft project plan is evidence of the extensive engagement of the community. While the engagement efforts identified above provided opportunities for involvement, the efforts of HACA, and council meetings were instrumental getting the high level of participation through the engagement opportunities provided. HACA involvement directly resulted in the extensions to comment periods and the receipt of additional comments.

The CLC is generally formed on a project basis. As such it may be preferred for a CLC to be formed specifically for Harrington. If a CLC is needed for Embro it may be preferred to be a separate CLC, however it is possible to combine them into one committee. There are advantages and disadvantages to both these options.

A CLC should, to the extent possible, reflect all views. As such representation on the committee would likely include municipal and board representation, representation from environmental groups, first nations, broader community members, as well as members of the Harrington community which have an interest in maintaining the dam and pond in their current form.

Many dam repair/decommissioning projects are also undertaken through the Municipal Engineers Association (MEA) Municipal Class EA. The projects that we have been involved with through this class EA did not include CLC. Instead the Municipal Class EA often relies on public information centers or open houses in addition to notices. A CLC seems to be more common in full EAs and would be helpful if a bump up request results in a part II order to complete a full EA.

It is estimated that the costs of establishing a CLC and incorporating the input from the CLC into the EA project plan would be approximately \$20,000

Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report (CHER) and Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA)

The potential need for a CHER and possibly a HIA was identified in correspondence in response to notice of intent. This correspondence resulted in the completion of the archeological assessment and was discussed at steering committee 2. The need for the CHER was again confirmed in the recent response from MTCS.

[Crooks' Hollow dam removal project](#) was completed by Hamilton Conservation Authority in 2012. This project involved the removal of a dam and restoration of natural channel. The project plan posting resulted in four part II order requests citing concerns for sediment management, cultural heritage significance and recreational enjoyment of the area. The need for sediment management plans and approvals by MOECC and MNRF were identified in conditions on the approval of the EA. The HIA was completed in 2011 after the completion of the project plan and approval of the EA (in 2009). The report resulted in the preservation of parts of the dam abutments, public viewing areas and railings, hiking trails, and water pipe as well as other dam apparatus for use in future interpretive displays.

We have received a proposal from the consultant who undertook the archeological assessment. The estimate for a CHER for both Harrington and Embro and a HIA for Harrington is \$18,800. If a HIA is required for Embro it is estimated to cost an additional \$5,600.

Oxford County Heritage Interest

The HACA delegation also indicated that the County of Oxford had established a heritage interest in the Harrington Pond. Through discussion with the county, this seems to be stemming from Harrington and Embro CAs being listed in the Heritage Resources Inventory in the appendices to the county Official Plan. The inventory identifies no Historical/Architectural Resources in Zorra and list the Conservation Areas under the Natural Areas and Parks. The listing makes reference to passive recreation and fishing as well as identifying the Harrington Mill Committee's restoration of the mill. The policies in the OP related to the Heritage Inventory are enabling in nature and are unlikely to be triggered by any of the alternatives discussed in the EA. Any heritage designation by the county would be undertaken in consultation with the property owner.

Next Steps:

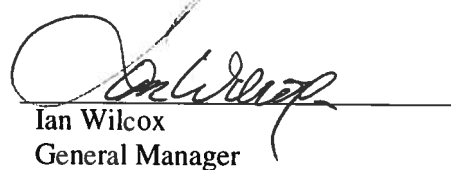
In addition to the items identified in the previous update consideration should be given to

- Meet with steering committee to review options and possible next steps
- Consider proceeding with the CHER/HIA

Prepared by



Chris Tasker, Manager,
Water and Information Management



Ian Wilcox
General Manager

Position Statement endorsed at a Special meeting of
The Harrington and Area Community Association,
Held Monday, July 10, 2017 at 7:00 PM at Harrington Hall

HACA appreciates the statement in Section 8.1 of the Environmental Assessment report proposing that there be further study and public consultation during the detailed design process, but we are concerned that these could be focused on the consultants' recommended alternative only. We believe that the detailed design process will likely result in the discovery that the existing dam and pond should be preserved if "full consideration be given to the input provided by the Community" as the report recommends. We prefer the alternatives resulting from the Environmental Assessment that maintain a dam and a pond with the existing footprint.

HACA and the community of Harrington deeply value the historic Harrington Grist Mill, the Harrington Mill Pond and their relationship to each other. While the recommendation is to *try* to find a way to provide waterpower for the Mill with the preferred alternative, we are concerned that this may not be possible or affordable. Also, the preferred alternative would destroy the historic setting for the Grist Mill. HACA feels that the Mill Pond provides the necessary historic context to tell a story of the early development of our region.

**Position Statement endorsed at a Special meeting of
The Harrington and Area Community Association,
held Friday, September 22, 2017 at 7:00 PM at Harrington Hall**

The Harrington and Area Community Association is concerned that a Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report, and the Creation of a Community Liaison Committee were omitted from the Environmental Assessment Process recently undertaken by Eco System Recovery for the Harrington Dam.

We believe that, had these been included, they could have had significant impact on the results of the EA, and the recommended option.

As such, we believe that the only path forward is for the Environmental Assessment process to begin again, including all the required steps, such as the Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report, and Community Liaison Committee.

To: UTRCA Board of Directors

From: Ian Wilcox, General Manager

Date: September 11, 2017

Agenda #: 10 (d)

Subject: Municipal Budget Workshop Summary

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The UTRCA hosted a Municipal Budget Workshop at the WCC on September 7, 2017. Invitations were sent to the Mayors and CAOs of each of our 17 member municipalities with all members of council and senior staff invited. The purpose of the workshop was for the Board to hear early municipal feedback regarding 2018 financial priorities, and concerns, that would help guide development of our own 2018 draft budget.

In total, 25 people registered for the workshop with 19 attending. Of that total:

- Nine were UTRCA Board Members
- Ten were politicians/municipal staff representing the following eight municipalities:
 - St. Marys
 - Middlesex Centre
 - Perth South
 - West Perth
 - Strathroy-Caradoc
 - Thames Centre
 - Norwich
 - Ingersoll

UTRCA staff provided a presentation that included a general overview of programs and services, a high level summary of our budget's revenues and expenditures, and a refresher of our Environmental Targets Strategic Plan, noting it is the principle driver of operating budget increases for the next four years. While there was support for the Authority's services, the focus of the workshop was to identify any municipal budget concerns for 2018. Examples of comments from the meeting include:

- Our Strategic Plan may be too aggressive.
- Municipalities are struggling with reduced provincial transfer payments so any cost increase is difficult to manage.
- Some municipalities are experiencing cuts to services; they are wondering what services the UTRCA plans to cut.
- Investment in a water quality target is mis-guided as agriculture has made significant improvements in the past several years.
- Generally the UTRCA should be assisting municipalities in identifying developable land; the Environmental Targets should not be our priority.
- Why is the UTRCA being so aggressive regarding program expansion when some neighbouring Conservation Authorities are not? If they aren't growing and spending new money, why should the UTRCA?

- Budget comparisons between the UTRCA and municipality should be against the tax levy, NOT the entire municipal budget.

A detailed summary of municipal comments will be provided during the presentation of the 2018 Draft Budget, scheduled for the October Board meeting.

Prepared by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ian Wilcox", with a horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Ian Wilcox



Soil Your Undies

UTRCA staff were burying underwear in farm fields in June to kick off the “Soil Your Undies” challenge. After 8 weeks in the soil, the underwear were dug up to see how much decomposition had occurred. This exercise offered an excellent talking point for landowners and staff to discuss best management practices that impact soil health on farms, and the landowners got a kick out of soiling their undies!

Contact: Michael Funk, Agricultural Soil & Water Technician

Summer in the Park

This past summer, Community Education staff at Fanshawe and Wildwood Conservation Areas teamed up with park staff to offer a variety of educational activities for visitors. Family-focused events at Fanshawe included an Interpretive Hike, a Pond-Field-Forest Exploration and a Learn-to-Canoe Day. Themed events, such as Save-our-Bees and a Butterfly Blitz, were also offered in the day use area to teach patrons about local species and how we can help protect our environment. Staff were delighted with the turnout and look forward to offering more events in summers to come.

Community Education staff at Wildwood offered hands-on educational activities on Friday afternoons at the Visitor Services Centre. Weekly themes corresponded with the weekend activities that were planned by park staff. Over the course of the summer, 138 participants learned about Owls, Rocks and Minerals, Tree ID, Tracking, Birds and Animal Groups. Staff also developed a “50 Things to Do at Wildwood” checklist to encourage campers to explore the park.

Contact: Karlee Flear, Community Education Supervisor, or Erin Dolmage, Community Education Technician

St. Marys Memorial Forest

Wildwood Conservation Area was the setting for the annual St. Marys Memorial Forest dedication service on August 27. Approximately 170 people were on hand as Gary Mallalieu, Funeral Director from Hodges Funeral Home in St. Marys, welcomed everyone to the service. UTRCA Resource Specialist Karen Pugh provided greetings, and Pastor Katie Nightengale gave a message. The names of 97 individuals were read, followed by the planting of a tulip tree as a living memorial.

Each spring, spruce trees are planted at the actual memorial forest, which is located on Line 13, south of County Road 9. The program is open to anyone wishing to purchase a tree in memory of a loved one.

Thank you to Wildwood CA staff Dave Griffin, Eric Fink, Karen Sockett and Paul Switzer, who carried out the event logistics.

Contact: Karen Pugh, Resource Specialist, or Andrew Hodges, andrew@hodgesfuneralhome.ca



Four Stoney Creek watershed schools have new shade trees, thanks to the Friends of Stoney Creek.

Friends of Stoney Creek Celebrate 25 Years!

The Friends of Stoney Creek are a group of concerned citizens who work with the UTRCA, the City of London and the local community to improve the health of Stoney Creek. Since 1992, the Friends and their partners have been implementing hands-on stream rehabilitation projects along the creek, creating educational opportunities, and sharing their experience and knowledge.

This year, the Friends of Stoney Creek are celebrating 25 years of conservation work in London! To commemorate this milestone, the Friends have dedicated the year to encouraging friends and neighbours to get involved in on-the-ground projects to help the Stoney Creek subwatershed. So far this year, the Friends have:

- Planted native shade trees at four schools in the Stoney Creek watershed
- Partnered with Stoneybrook Public School to plant a native wildflower garden
- Partnered with the UTRCA to deliver the Stream of Dreams program
- Held two Adopt-A-Park litter clean ups (one along Stoney Creek near Constitution Park and one at Hastings Park)
- Installed one low impact development (LID) rain garden



Some of the trash pulled from in and around Stoney Creek during the spring clean up.

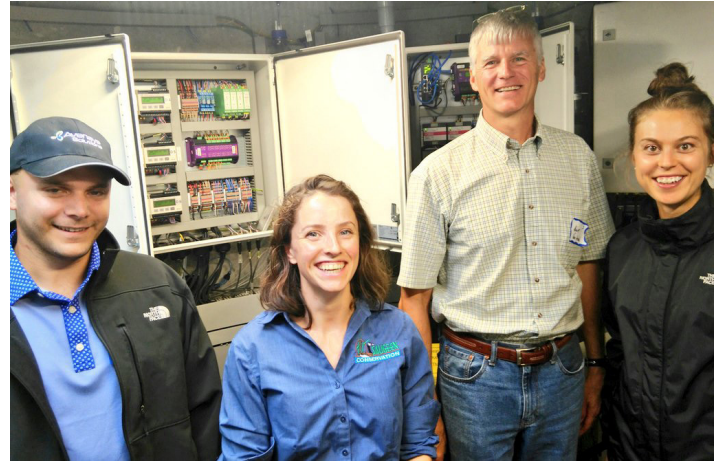
Upcoming projects include:

- Annual Community Tree Planting Day in October
- Report Card Program with students from AB Lucas Secondary School in the fall
- Two Adopt-A-Park litter clean ups
- Installing another LID rain garden
- Erecting interpretive signs along the Stoney Creek Trail

“We are pleased to be celebrating 25 years of protecting Stoney Creek,” said Charlotte Bouckley, from the Friends of Stoney Creek. “Thank you to all of the Friends of Stoney Creek and community members for your efforts over the past 25 years. We also appreciate the ongoing guidance and support of the UTRCA. We welcome new ideas and new members as we continue to improve Stoney Creek watershed’s health.”

For more information, go to www.thamesriver.on.ca/education-community/watershed-friends-of-projects/stoneycreek/

Contact: Linda Smith, Community Partnership Specialist



Conservation Authority staff inside a lysimeter bunker at the Elora Research Station. Lysimeters are used to measure the amount of water retained within the soil, which is an important soil health parameter.

Canadian Soil Summit

UTRCA staff took part in the Soil Conservation Council of Canada Summit on Canadian Soil Health. This event brought together farmers, staff from several environmental and agricultural organizations, and researchers to learn about the importance of soil health in agricultural systems. A bus tour made stops at the Elora Research Station and the Perth Demonstration Farm, before ending at Bob McIntosh’s farm in St. Marys. Bob gave an overview of his experience no-till farming over the past 27 years, including lessons learned. His concern for soil erosion led him to install water and sediment control basins, which work most effectively when coupled with no-till farming practices. Cover crops have also been included in the rotation to further reduce erosion, increase infiltration and build soil structure.

Bob has been involved with a University of Waterloo research project for the past several years. Tile and surface runoff phosphorus concentrations are monitored year round to understand the link between the phosphorus and field management practices.

Contact: Tatianna Lozier, Agricultural Soil & Water Technician



The three cells of the wetland offer multiple opportunities to remove sediment and nutrients from agricultural runoff.

Tertiary Wetland for Nutrient Removal

In August, UTRCA staff began constructing a new wetland at Wildwood Conservation Area. The wetland will be an end-of-pipe treatment (tertiary) to treat sediment and nutrients in agricultural runoff from 120 acres. The wetland is a pilot project to evaluate the efficacy of this system in removing nutrients.

The location was chosen due to the well managed upland agricultural fields, which include a variety of in-field best management practices such as nutrient management, conservation tillage, cover crops and erosion control structures. Having a variety of best management practices offers multiple opportunities to reduce nutrients and sediment at the field scale. As a result, the concentrations of nutrients entering the wetland are typically low, which provides the best conditions for this wetland to serve as the final removal opportunity before the water enters an adjacent creek.

Contact: Tatianna Lozier, Agricultural Soil & Water Technician

Stream of Dreams

The UTRCA delivered the Stream of Dreams program at Stoneybrook and Glen Cairn public schools in the spring of 2017. Students from Laurier and Montcalm secondary schools assisted by helping to prime and varnish wooden fish. The Friends of Stoney Creek partnered with Stoneybrook staff and students to paint and prepare all 550 “dreamfish” for mounting on the schoolyard fences.

The Stream of Dreams program brings watershed awareness to communities by teaching students about the life and function of rivers and streams and engaging the whole school population in a community art project. Since 2015, eight schools from across the Upper Thames watershed have participated in the Stream of



Painted “dreamfish” on a school yard fence.

Dreams program. Glen Cairn is the fourth and final school in the Glen Cairn area to take part in the program.

This coming fall, we’re excited to be taking the program to two more London schools - Northbrae Public School and Louise Harbour French Immersion Public School.

Contact: Linda Smith, Community Partnership Specialist

WISKI & the Upper Medway Project

The Upper Medway Priority Subwatershed Project has been running since December 2015. Over 1000 water samples have been collected from the northern reaches of the creek. The WISKI database system is being used to help organize this data. Staff can easily use WISKI to analyze the data and compare results with other sampling programs across Ontario. This tool will be used to answer questions about phosphorus loading in tributaries of the Thames River.

Contact: Michael Funk, Agricultural Soil & Water Technician

On the Agenda

The next UTRCA Board of Directors meeting will be September 26, 2017. Approved board meeting minutes are posted on the publications page at www.thamesriver.on.ca.

- UTRCA Minimum Wage Concerns Letter
- Request for Use of Capital Maintenance Reserve
- Water Control Structure Consultant Selection
- Administration and Enforcement - Section 28
- Source Protection Update
- 2018 Municipal Budget Workshop
- Update on Harrington and Embro EAs

Contact: Michelle Viglianti, Administrative Assistant



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