



# LAKEHEAD REGION

## CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Minutes of the Fourth Regular Meeting of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority held on Wednesday, May 1, 2019, in the Authority Boardroom. The Chair called the Meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Donna Blunt, Chair  
Grant Arnold, Vice-Chair  
Rudy Buitenhuis  
Ed Chambers  
Andrew Foulds  
Andrea Goold  
Umed Panu  
Jim Vezina  
Allan Vis

**REGRETS:** Erwin Butikofer  
Trevor Giertuga

**ALSO PRESENT:** Tammy Cook, Chief Administrative Officer  
Mark Ambrose, Finance Manager  
Gail Willis, Watershed Manager  
Ryne Gilliam, Lands Manager  
Ryan Mackett, Communications Manager  
Melanie O'Riley, Receptionist/Admin Clerk, recorder of Minutes  
Rosy Brizi, Auditor, Grant Thornton LLP, part of Meeting  
Wally Peterson, Thunder Country Diving, part of Meeting  
Richard Harvey, Save Ontario Shipwrecks (SOS), part of Meeting  
Larry Bilyk, diver, part of Meeting  
Allan Chow, CDS Consulting, part of Meeting

### 1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Resolution #48/19

Moved by Grant Arnold, Seconded by Ed Chambers

***"THAT: the Agenda is adopted as published."* CARRIED.**

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

None.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolution #49/19

Moved by Jim Vezina, Seconded by Allan Vis

***“THAT: the Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Third Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, March 27, 2019, together with the In-Camera portion are adopted as published.” CARRIED.***

4. 2018 AUDIT REPORT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Members reviewed and discussed the 2018 Audit Report and Financial Statements from LRCA’s Audit firm of Grant Thornton LLP Thunder Bay. Rosy Brizi, Auditor, presented the Statements and answered any questions.

Resolution #50/19

Moved by Allan Vis, Seconded by Grant Arnold

***“THAT: the 2018 Audit Report and Financial Statements are adopted as presented AND FURTHER THAT each Member Municipality will be forwarded a copy of the final version.” CARRIED.***

It was noted that final copies will be forwarded to all Member Municipalities.

5. IN-CAMERA AGENDA

Resolution #51/19

Moved by Grant Arnold, Seconded by Ed Chambers

***“THAT: we now go into Committee of the Whole (In-Camera) at 4:46 p.m.” CARRIED.***

Resolution #52/19

Moved by Ed Chambers, Seconded by Jim Vezina

***“THAT: we go into Open Meeting at 4:52 p.m.” CARRIED.***

The purpose of the In-Camera Meeting pertained to property and legal matters.

## 6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

### (a) Presentation regarding a Proposed Dive Park at Silver Harbour Conservation Area

Mr. Wally Peterson of Thunder Country Diving, Richard Harvey, Save Ontario Shipwrecks (SOS) and Larry Bilyk, diver, presented information related to their proposal regarding a dive park and diving being a permitted activity at Silver Harbour Conservation. It was noted that staff will provide a Staff Report at a future meeting outlining the proposal for consideration.

### (b) Granite Point Registered Mining Claim

Members were advised that staff had met with the Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines and provided comments to the applicant regarding his intent to apply for an exploration permit at Granite Point. Staff were advised that Mr. Kalik has the right to explore that area; however would need LRCA permission if he were to proceed to the production stage. Mr. Kalik has agreed to not conduct any exploration work on LRCA owned land, not disturb any wetlands, provide access to LRCA staff if a gate is installed to provide access to LRCA land, not use explosives on LRCA land and follow all standard safety procedures including signage and pre-blast warnings.

### (c) Board Training

The third Board Training Session was held immediately after the Board Meeting. The session focused on the Development Regulations and Plan Input and Review.

## 7. CORRESPONDENCE

### (a) File: LRCA Confederation College Bursary

Members were advised that the LRCA Confederation College Bursary of \$110.00 was presented to Justin Wice, Civil Engineering Technology, in 2019.

### (b) File: Lakehead Conservation Foundation

Minutes of the Lakehead Conservation Foundation Meeting dated March 4, 2019, which were adopted at their April 8, 2019, Meeting were noted.

### (c) File: Printed Material

Printed material was circulated.

## 8. STAFF REPORTS

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report FPMAP-03-2019 regarding the approval of the McVicar Creek Floodplain Mapping Update project. Mr. Allan Chow was present to answer any questions.

Resolution #53/19

Moved by Allan Vis, Seconded by Grant Arnold

***“THAT: the McVicar Creek Floodplain Mapping Update Study General Report, Hydraulics Report, Hydrology Report and McVicar Creek Flood and Fill Line Mapping Update 2019 map sheets completed by KGS Group Consulting Engineers are adopted AND FURTHER THAT the updated 2019 McVicar Creek flood and fill lines will replace the 1995 flood and fill lines effective immediately AND FURTHER THAT the approximate regulated area will be amended accordingly.” CARRIED.***

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report FPMAP-02-2019 regarding the engineering consultant award recommendation for the Mosquito Creek Floodplain Mapping Update project.

Resolution #54/19

Moved by Grant Arnold, Seconded by Jim Vezina

***“THAT: the proposal submitted by KGS Group Consulting Engineers dated March 13, 2019 to update the Mosquito Creek Floodplain Mapping be accepted for a cost of \$106,506.00, not including HST.” CARRIED.***

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report NMFC-02-2019 related to the 2019 Neebing-McIntyre Floodway Sediment Trap Dredging Project.

Resolution #55/19

Moved by Allan Vis, Seconded by Ed Chambers

***“THAT: the proposal submitted by Hatch Ltd. for Tendering, Contract Administration and Inspection services for the 2019 Neebing-McIntyre Floodway Sediment Trap Dredging Project dated April 1, 2019 is approved.” CARRIED.***

## **9. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER’S REPORT**

Members were provided with the monthly Treasurer’s Report for expenses and revenues for March plus totals to date for Administration, Capital and Vehicle and Equipment Program.

Members reviewed and discussed the draft General Policy GEN-13: Media Relations. This policy was updated to clarify how the LRCA addresses media requests for comment and/or interview.

Resolution #56/19

Moved by Grant Arnold, Seconded by Jim Vezina

***“THAT: General Policy GEN-13: Media Relations be adopted.” CARRIED.***

Members reviewed and discussed the draft Health and Safety Policy HS-09: Sharps Procedure. This policy is aimed to provide direction to staff, in the event of a puncture from a sharp (i.e. needle).

Resolution #57/19

Moved by Rudy Buitenhuis, Seconded by Andrea Goold

***“THAT: Health and Safety Policy HS-09: Sharps Procedure be adopted.” CARRIED.***

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report DEVREG-02-2019 that proposed to appoint Ms. Catherine Gail Willis, Watershed Manager, as a Provincial Offences Officer of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority, to enforce Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

Resolution #58/19

Moved by Andrea Goold, Seconded by Rudy Buitenhuis

***“THAT: Staff Report DEVREG-02-2019 be received AND FURTHER THAT Catherine Gail Willis, Watershed Manager, be appointed as a Provincial Offences Officer of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority to enforce regulations under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act within its Area of Jurisdiction.” CARRIED.***

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report CORP-01-2019 related to two Environmental Registry of Ontario postings regarding proposed changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

Resolution #59/19

Moved by Rudy Buitenhuis, Seconded by Andrea Goold

***“THAT: Staff Report CORP-01-2019 be received.” CARRIED.***

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report CORP-02-2019 that outlined an initiative by all Conservation Authorities to pursue streamlining and client services measures to contribute to achieving provincial priorities. It was noted that as of the meeting date 19 of 36 Conservation Authorities had passed the proposed resolution.

Resolution #60/19

Moved by Andrea Goold, Seconded by Rudy Buitenhuis

***“WHEREAS the provincial government intends to increase the supply of housing and streamline the land use planning and development approval process to achieve this goal; and***

***WHEREAS the Conservation Authorities play an important role in the planning and development review process with respect to watershed protection and hazard lands; and***

***WHEREAS Conservation Authorities support and can help deliver the Government’s objective not to jeopardize public health and safety or the environment;***

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Directors endorse the three key solutions developed by the Conservation Ontario working group: to improve client service and accountability; increase speed of approvals; and, reduce “red tape” and regulatory burden; and

**THAT** staff be directed to work with Conservation Ontario and our clients to identify additional improvements;

**AND FURTHER THAT** staff be directed to implement these solutions as soon as possible.”  
**CARRIED.**

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report CORP-03-2019 related to the reduction in 2019/2020 Section 39 Transfer Payment from the MNRF and resulting proposed 2019 Budget amendments.

Resolution #61/19

Moved by Andrea Goold, Seconded by Rudy Buitenhuis

**“WHEREAS:** due to the Province reducing the Section 39 Transfer Payment to Conservation Authorities by 48% which results in a reduction in funding to the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority of \$141,440;

**THAT** staff are authorized to amend the 2019 Approved Budget Version 2.0 as outlined in Staff Report CORP-03-2019 to reduce planned spending and re-allocate municipal levy funds as required in order to continue to provide and administer the provincially delegated core mandated programs.” **CARRIED.**

**10. PASSING OF ACCOUNTS**

Resolution #62/19

Moved by Rudy Buitenhuis, Seconded by Andrea Goold

**“THAT:** having examined the accounts for the period March 1, 2019 to March 31, 2019 cheque #1585 to #1609 for \$95,731.62 and preauthorized payments of \$56,845.33 for a total of \$152,576.95 we approve their payment.” **CARRIED.**

**11. REGULATORY ROLE**

The Plan Input and Review for the period from March 28, 2018 to May 1, 2019, was circulated.

The Permits issued under the Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses for the period from March 28, 2019 to May 1, 2018, were circulated.

## 12. PROJECTS UPDATE

Members reviewed and discussed the 2018 LRCA Annual Report.

*Resolution #63/19*

Moved by Rudy Buitenhuis, Seconded by Andrea Goold

***“THAT: the 2018 LRCA Annual Report is received and adopted AND FURTHER THAT*** Lowerys will print the report at a cost of \$9,675.00 +HST ***AND FURTHER THAT*** the Chronicle Journal will distribute the report on May 18, 2019 at a cost of \$1,404.00 +HST.” ***CARRIED.***

It was noted that the 2019 Private Landowners Tree Seedling Assistance program was currently underway and all orders must be in on May 8<sup>th</sup> with pick-up at Hill’s Greenhouse on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

It was noted that tickets were on sale for the 2019 Wine Tasting & Dinner at Whitewater Golf Club which will be held on Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup>.

It was noted that the LRCA has once again secured funding from the TD Friends of the Environment Fund for the Living Classroom programs (formerly Engaging Seniors in the Outdoors). Funding received from TD was slightly less than what was expected; as such, the difference will be funded from the Education deferred fund, which is non-levy funding.

It was noted that EcoSuperior would be utilizing the LRCA greenhouse until the end of May in order to store, grow and re-pot plants for their upcoming native plant sale. Additionally, the RFDA will once again be utilizing the community garden as well as potentially the greenhouse during the 2019 growing season. The Thunder Bay Master Gardeners will once again utilize the LRCA administrative office grounds for their June plant sale/education event.

It was noted that staff have signed up to participate in Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School’s Wake the Giant initiative which aims to contribute to co-creating an inclusive community by helping to identify and increase safe spaces in the City of Thunder Bay for Indigenous youth. Local businesses and organizations have been invited to place a logo decal in the front window of their establishment so people can recognize that the location is somewhere that Indigenous youth will feel safe and welcomed and free from discrimination. The program identifies the following ways an organization can help make a difference: be a safe space, use respectful language, increase awareness, acknowledge in a positive way, speak up, and be welcoming. These initiatives are already in place with LRCA staff, who have gone through Indigenous cultural awareness training and Indigenous engagement training workshops.

It was noted that the Communications Manager attended a meeting of the Imagetrekkers Photography Club at the 55+ Centre on April 9<sup>th</sup>. The Communications Manager was invited to speak about the Conservation Authority, Conservation Areas, birding and bird photography.

It was noted that on April 13 staff attended the 55+ Centre's Annual Health fair. Staff had an informational booth set up and conducted a presentation about the Authority, Conservation Areas and the importance of recreating in nature/healthy lifestyles.

It was noted that the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Melt Meeting was held on April 2, 2019. The 2019 Flood Warning Contact Booklet was distributed to the attendees and will be mailed to those who could not attend.

It was noted that on April 16, 2019, the LRCA conducted its annual inspection at the nine rain gauge stations it operates.

It was noted that the LRCA will be hosting a Public Open House on May 7, 2019 at 7:00 pm regarding the recently completed Neebing River Watershed Wetland Study. A presentation from Northern Bioscience will occur at 7 pm. The study report and maps will be available for viewing at the Open House, and LRCA staff and Northern Bioscience will be available to answer any questions related to the Study.

It was noted that the LRCA will be hosting a Public Open House on May 8, 2019 at 7:00 pm regarding the recently completed Mosquito Creek Watershed Wetland Study. A presentation from Northern Bioscience will occur at 7 pm. The study report and maps will be available for viewing at the Open House, and LRCA staff and Northern Bioscience will be available to answer any questions related to the Study.

**13. NEW BUSINESS**

Board Member, Grant Arnold, requested that the Authority consider increasing the LRCA Confederation College Bursary award. It was noted that the College sets the amount of the award based on the interest from the initial donation.

**14. NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, May 29, 2019, at 4:30 p.m., followed by Board Member Training Session #4 regarding Land Management.

**15. AJOURNMENT**

Resolution #64/19

Moved by Andrea Goold, Seconded by Rudy Buitenhuis

***"THAT: the time being 6:13 p.m. AND FURTHER THAT there being no further business THAT we adjourn."*** **CARRIED.**

  
Chair

  
Chief Administrative Officer