



LAKEHEAD REGION

CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

FOURTH REGULAR AUTHORITY MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, April 28, 2021

PLACE: Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Boardroom

TIME: 5:00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams
Public participation via Tbaytel teleconference

AGENDA

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Suggested Resolution:

***“THAT:** the Agenda be adopted as published.”*

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – pages 1 to 6

Attached are the Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Third Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, March 31, 2021.

Suggested Resolution:

***“THAT:** the Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Third Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, March 31, 2021 are adopted as published.”*

4. 2020 AUDIT REPORT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – Copy to be emailed separately prior to the meeting.

The 2020 Audit Report and Financial Statements from the Authority's Audit firm of Grant Thornton LLP Thunder Bay will be presented. Rosie Brizi from the Audit Firm will present the Statements and answer any questions. At the time of agenda preparation, the auditors were still reviewing the draft Statements; therefore, a copy will be provided via email separately prior to the meeting.

Board Members are to destroy the draft Statements after adoption of the resolution. The Audit Firm will provide the final Audit Report and Financial Statements, which will be available to any Board Member upon request. Final copies will be forwarded to all Member Municipalities and posted on the LRCA website.

Suggested Resolution:

"THAT: the 2020 Audit Report and Financial Statements are adopted as presented **AND FURTHER THAT** each Member Municipality will be forwarded a copy of the final version."

5. IN-CAMERA AGENDA

Suggested Resolution:

"THAT: we now go into Committee of the Whole (In-Camera) at _____ p.m."

"THAT: we go into Open Meeting at _____ p.m."

The purpose of the In-Camera Meeting pertains to personnel, property, and legal matters.

Suggested Resolution:

"THAT: the In-Camera Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority's, March 31, 2021 meeting be adopted as published."

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

None.

7. CORRESPONDENCE – page 7

a) Confederation College Bursary

Attached on page 7 is correspondence from Confederation College advising that Jonathon Fogolin, a Civil Engineering Technician was the recipient of this year's Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Award.

8. STAFF REPORTS

None.

9. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT – page 8

Attached on page 8 is the monthly Treasurer's Report for March's Administration and Capital.

Tangible Capital Asset Policy Review

As per the Tangible Capital Asset Policy, staff is required to review the policy every five years. The Finance Manager along with Grant Thornton LLP reviewed the policy and conclude that no changes are required. The next review of the Tangible Capital Asset Policy will take place in 2026.

10. PASSING OF ACCOUNTS

Resolution for the month of March 2021:

***"THAT:** having examined the accounts for the period March 1, 2021 to March 31, 2021 cheque #2213 to #2260 for \$98,109.90 and preauthorized payments of \$81,443.89 for a total of \$179,553.79 we approve their payment."*

11. REGULATORY ROLE – pages 9 to 10

Due to the meeting being held virtually, the circulation for the Plan Input and Review and approved Section 28 permit binders cannot be undertaken. Attached on pages 9 to 10 is the Plan Input and Review Summary for the period of March 2021 to April 20, 2021. No new Section 28 permits have been issued since the last meeting.

12. PROJECTS UPDATE – Appendix “A”; pages 11 to 17

2020 Annual Report – Appendix “A”

Appearing as Appendix “A” is the 2020 Annual Report for Board approval. The Report will be distributed via the Chronicle Journal on Saturday, May 29, 2021. The other physical copies the Authority is obligated to provide will be mailed out as soon as possible.

Please note that the final numbers regarding visitation will be confirmed prior to supplying the Report to the printers.

Suggested Resolution:

“THAT: the 2020 Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Annual Report be approved.”

Watershed Connections and Arbor Week Programs

The LRCA’s complimentary in-class Watershed Connections and Arbor Week programs will be held virtually this year, similarly to how the Spring Water Awareness Program (SWAP) was delivered (i.e., a pre-recorded virtual presentation distributed to classes/schools). SWAP was very well-received by teachers, and it is anticipated that Arbor Week and Watershed Connections will be equally as popular.

For your information, Ontario Power Generation (OPG) has given verbal indication that they will be sponsoring the LRCA’s complimentary school programming for 2021, in addition to the typical programs already sponsored by OPG (i.e., Water Festival, Waterfowl Viewing Day/Bird Festival, Viewing Scopes, Calendar, etc.). While staff have not yet officially received a cheque from OPG, it is anticipated that the OPG sponsorship will amount to approximately \$15,000.00. The LRCA is grateful for OPG’s continued generous support.

Watershed Explorers Program

The LRCA was successful in receiving \$10,000.00 in funding from the TD Friends of the Environment Fund for the new Watershed Explorers program. In the past, the TD FEF has supported the LRCA’s Engaging Seniors program, as well as the Living Classroom program. This most recent iteration of the program, Watershed Explorers, also incorporates a Junior Explorers program targeted at youth. The programs are planned to run similarly to the former Seniors/Living Classroom programs, with LRCA staff and an invited expert guest speaker leading a guided hike at one of the LRCA’s Conservation Areas or Forest management Properties. Topics for this program include:

- Owl Prowl
- Frogs
- Medicine Walk
- Wildflowers

- Nature Journaling
- Mushrooms
- Photography
- Fish & Wildflowers

The Communications Manager, Education Coordinator and Watershed Stewardship Technician will all be involved in delivering the program alongside experts and guests from the Thunder Bay Field Naturalists, Lakehead University, Thunder Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre, and MNRF.

In-person programs will only be held once the stay-at-home order has been lifted and it is safe and responsible for the LRCA to host in-person events. Staff will explore ways to offer virtual versions of the programs if possible/required. The LRCA thanks the TD FEF for its continued generous support.

Frog Watch Program

The LRCA's Education Coordinator will be leading a citizen science initiative, along with local experts from the Thunder Bay Field Naturalists, Lakehead University, and the general public, involving the collection of frog call data at Mills Block Forest. The program will see members of the public recording frog calls and sharing the data through iNaturalist. There are also plans for a few in-person workshops, some of which will tie into the LRCA's Watershed Explorers program; these workshops will only occur once the stay-at-home order has been lifted and it is safe and responsible for LRCA staff to conduct in-person programs.

Alzheimer Society Fundraiser

As part of their annual Walk for Alzheimer's fundraising initiative, the Alzheimer Society of Thunder Bay will be placing temporary informational signage along several LRCA trails during their virtual walking program throughout the month of May. They are encouraging people to get out and walk 240,000 steps individually or as part of a virtual team in honour of the 240,000 people living with dementia in Ontario. The LRCA is being featured as a program sponsor in all of the Alzheimer Society's media and outreach for this program.

Thunder Bay Climate Change Connection

The LRCA recently partnered with several other organizations to create a series of climate change fact sheets, which are all available now on the LRCA website. Partnering organizations include Citizens United for a Sustainable Planet (CUSP), EarthCare, EcoSuperior, Environment North, Fridays for Future, Lakehead University, Matawa First Nation Management – Four Rivers Environmental Group, Ontario Nature, and the Thunder Bay District Health Unit. These fact sheets are intended to be locally relevant, concise climate change resources, and tie into existing messaging of the Climate Change Thunder Bay website.

The Education Coordinator will continue working with Lindsay Galway of Lakehead University to co-lead this group toward new goals, including potential funding opportunities, reduction of programming overlap and more effective partnerships. The LRCA's continued participation and

leadership with this group directly ties into the LRCA's Mission to lead the conservation and protection of the Lakehead Watershed.

32nd Annual Spring Melt Meeting

Attached on pages 11 to 17 is the Spring Melt Meeting Minutes. The Authority held the 32nd Annual Spring Melt Meeting on March 29, 2021. Due to the ongoing pandemic, the meeting was held online via Microsoft Teams and the meeting presentation and minutes was emailed to member municipalities and flood partners on April 14, 2021. Additionally, the annual updates to the Flood Warning System Binder along with copies of the 2021 Flood Contact Booklet were mailed on April 16, 2021.

Twenty-seven people attended the online meeting from the Municipalities of Oliver Paipoonge, the City of Thunder Bay, Townships of Conmee and O'Connor, as well as from the Ontario Power Generation, Fort William Historical Park, Ministry of Transportation, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, and staff from the LRCA.

Annual Rain Gauge Inspection

On April 14 and 22, 2021, the LRCA conducted its annual inspections of the tipping bucket rain gauges. The inspection involved removing debris from the tipping buckets, recording gauge conditions (i.e., missing bolts, damage, etc.) and a calibration check. The calibration check consisted of pouring water down the tipping buckets, downloading the gauges at the office and observing if the tipping buckets are operating correctly.

Snow Surveys and Lake Levels

Staff conduct snow surveys on a bimonthly basis on the 1st and 15th of the month between November and May of each year. There are three historical snow survey locations which are located at Hazelwood Lake Conservation Area (Current River), Madeline Street (McVicar Creek), and Vibert Road (Pennock Creek). Snow depth and weight (water content) are collected and forwarded to the MNRF's Surface Water Monitoring Centre as part of the Flood Forecasting Program.

The April 15, 2021 snow surveys indicated that there was zero snow at McVicar Creek, Current River, and Pennock Creek snow survey locations. Historical snow depth averages for April 15th are 8.6 centimetres (cm) at the McVicar Creek location, 24.7 cm at the Current River location, and 5.2 cm at the Pennock Creek location. The next snow survey measurements for all three snow survey locations will be taken on May 1, 2021.

Great Lakes water levels continue to be well above average. Lake Superior's beginning of April water level was 18 centimetres below the record high set in 1986, 20 centimetres above average (1918-2020), and 16 centimetres lower compared to last year's level. The current water level is approximately 80 centimetres lower than the 100-year flood level for Lake Superior. Lake

Superior levels fluctuate seasonally, therefore as expected, levels will begin to increase as they do every spring into the summer. Water levels on Lake Superior are expected to remain above average for a prolonged period.

Green Stormwater Infrastructure Monitoring and Action Plan (GSI MAP)

LRCA staff were successful in receiving \$35,000 in donations from the RBC Foundation through their RBC Tech for Nature program to implement the new Green Stormwater Infrastructure Monitoring and Action Plan (GSI MAP) project. The overall goals of the GSI MAP project are to build a community-led early warning program with real-time monitoring of water levels and a volunteer rain gauge network, and to assess the effectiveness of green stormwater infrastructure facilities (also known as LID's) to reduce flooding and pollution within the McVicar Creek watershed.

Real-time monitoring stations along McVicar Creek will be installed to collect water levels and other water quality parameters, which will be uploaded to the LRCA's existing WISKI system. Citizen, RBC employee, and local school volunteers will be engaged to install new rain gauges on their property and collect precipitation data. A new crowdsourcing App will be developed for volunteers to enter collected precipitation, water quality information, and field observations of green stormwater infrastructure facilities. Further, the real-time monitoring station collected data and crowdsourced collected data will be integrated into a public facing GIS Story Map and Dashboard App accessible from the LRCA's website. Using ArcGIS, the story map will educate and inform the public using the project's multimedia content, such as maps, images, reports, charts, and graphs, and the incoming real-time monitoring data which will provide a snapshot of the McVicar Creek's water quality and water level data over time.

13. NEW BUSINESS

14. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, May 26, 2021, at 4:30 p.m.

The June meeting is scheduled for June 30th, prior to the Thursday July 1st holiday; it is recommended to review potential quorum issues, and if necessary, consider moving the meeting to June 23, if necessary.

15. AJOURNMENT

Suggested Resolution:

“THAT: the time being _____ p.m. AND FURTHER THAT there being no further business THAT we adjourn.”

2021 EVENTS/MEETINGS

May 3-7, 2021	Arbour Week
Thursday, May 20, 2021	Living Classroom Program
Wednesday, May 26, 2021	LRCA Board Meeting
May 29-30, 2021	Dorion Birding Festival
June 8-10, 2021	Lakehead Children's Water Festival
Thursday, June 17, 2021	Spring Photography Workshop (Living Classroom Program)
Thursday, June 24, 2021	Living Classroom Program
Wednesday, June 30, 2021	LRCA Board Meeting
Sunday, July 18, 2021	Hazelwood Lake Family Fun Day
Thursday, July 22, 2021	Living Classroom Program
Wednesday, August 25, 2021	LRCA Board Meeting
Thursday, August 26, 2021	Living Classroom Program
Saturday, August 28, 2021	Silver Harbour Day
Sunday, September 12, 2021	Fall Mushroom Hike
Thursday, September 16, 2021	Living Classroom Program
Wednesday, September 29, 2021	LRCA Board Meeting
Thursday, September 30, 2021	Fall Photography Workshop (Living Classroom Program)
Saturday, October 2, 2021	Fall Waterfowl Viewing Day
Thursday, October 7, 2021	Living Classroom Program
Wednesday, October 27, 2021	LRCA Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 24, 2021

LRCA Board Meeting

Thursday, December 9, 2021

Holiday Gathering

****All events are tentative and are subject to current COVID-19 restrictions.**



Minutes of the Third Regular Meeting of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority held on Wednesday, March 31, 2021, via Microsoft Teams. The Chair called the Meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Donna Blunt, Chair
Grant Arnold, Vice-Chair
Joel Brown
Rudy Buitenhuis
Erwin Butikofer
Andrew Foulds
Andrea Goold
Umed Panu
Allan Vis

REGRETS: Trevor Giertuga
Jim Vezina

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

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Resolution #39/21

Moved by Grant Arnold, Seconded by Joel Brown

"THAT: the Agenda be adopted as published." CARRIED.

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

None.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolution #40/21

Moved by Rudy Buitenhuis, Seconded by Erwin Butikofer

“THAT: the Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Second Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, February 24, 2021 be adopted as published.” CARRIED.

4. IN-CAMERA AGENDA

Resolution #41/21

Moved by Andrew Foulds, Seconded by Andrea Goold

“THAT: we now go into Committee of the Whole (In-Camera) at 4:36 p.m.” CARRIED.

Resolution #42/21

Moved by Umed Panu, Seconded by Allan Vis

“THAT: we go into Open Meeting at 6:06 p.m.” CARRIED.

Resolution #43/21

Moved by Andrew Foulds, Seconded by Joel Brown

“THAT: the In-Camera Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority August 26, 2020 meeting be adopted as published.” CARRIED.

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

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

(a) File: Mission Island Board Report LM-02-2021

It was noted that on March 19, 2021 the damaged sections of the boardwalk and sheet pilings were removed, and the remaining boardwalk section was repaired at Mission Island Marsh Conservation Area.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) File: Changes to Conservation Authorities Act – Term of Chair

It was noted correspondence was received from MECP granting the requested exception to the term of the Chair and Vice-Chair, permitting them to hold their respective positions beyond the legislated term limit of two years in the 2022 election, if so elected.

7. STAFF REPORTS

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report POLICY-HS-13-2021 related to Health and Safety Policy HS-13: Equipment Training.

Resolution #44/21

Moved by Erwin Butikofer, Seconded by Umed Panu

“THAT: Health and Safety Policy HS-13: Equipment Training be adopted.” CARRIED.

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report LM-03-2021 related to the construction of a new multi-use trail and walkway on LRCA owned property as part of the Edward Street Bridge Replacement Project.

Resolution #45/21

Moved by Allan Vis, Seconded by Grant Arnold

“THAT: the City of Thunder Bay is authorized to construct a new multi-use trail (LRCA Property No. 9 and 10), resurface the existing multi-use trail (LRCA Property No. 9A and 11A), and construct a new walkway (LRCA Property No. 8) on LRCA owned property as outlined on Edward Street Bridge Replacement Drawing Number 1004 and 1005 dated February 23, 2021 with the requirement that the City of Thunder Bay is responsible for the construction work and all on-going maintenance of the new multi-use trail or required maintenance resulting from the new multi-use trail.” CARRIED.

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report KAMEC-01-2021, which summarized the 2021 update to the Kaministiquia River Operation, Maintenance and Surveillance Plan for Victor Broadway.

Resolution #46/21

Moved by Andrew Foulds, Seconded by Andrea Goold

“THAT: Staff Report KAMEC-01-2021 be received.” CARRIED.

8. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER’S REPORT

Members were provided with the monthly Treasurer’s Report for February’s Administration and Capital.

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report POLICY-PP-12-2021 related to the development of an Hours of Operation Policy.

Resolution #47/21

Moved by Allan Vis, Seconded by Rudy Buitenhuis

“THAT: Personnel Policy PP-12: Hours of Operation be adopted.” CARRIED.

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report FIN-07-2021 related to an amendment to the 2021 Education Programming Fee Schedule.

Resolution #48/21

Moved by Joel Brown, Seconded by Grant Arnold

“THAT: Staff Report FIN-07-2021 be received AND FURTHER THAT the 2021 Education Programming Fee Schedule be amended accordingly.” CARRIED.

9. PASSING OF ACCOUNTS

Resolution #49/21

Moved by Joel Brown, Seconded by Umed Panu

“THAT: having examined the accounts for the period February 1 to February 28, 2021 cheque #2187 to #2212 for \$41,222.90 and preauthorized payments of \$87,293.22 for a total of \$128,516.12 we approve their payment.” CARRIED.

10. REGULATORY ROLE

Members were provided with the Plan Input and Review Summary for the period of February 2021 to March 23, 2021 and a summary of Section 28 Permits issued in 2021.

11. PROJECTS UPDATE

It was noted that 826 Explore Card Passes had been sold as of the date of the meeting.

It was noted that the Source Protection Committee (SPC) held a meeting on March 16, 2021 to discuss the sixth annual progress report, which is due to the MECP on May 1, 2021, as well as other relevant issues related to source protection. Members were provided with the Minutes of the Source Protection Committee Meeting held on March 16, 2020.

It was noted that a Source Protection Authority Meeting will be held immediately after the April 28, 2021 Board Meeting, to receive and adopt the sixth annual progress report, prepared annually by the Source Protection Authority and submitted to the Director of the MECP prior to May 1st every year, as required in the *Clean Water Act*.

It was noted that the final draft of the 2020 Annual Report will be provided to the Board at the April Board Meeting for adoption with distribution being targeted for late May.

It was noted that due to COVID-19 the Dorion Bird Festival has been cancelled. Staff are investigating ways to offer a virtual bird festival experience.

Members were provided with an update related to the proposed birding tower at Hurkett Cove Conservation Area, indicating that Parks Canada is no longer willing to financially support the project.

It was noted that the March 15, 2021 snow surveys indicated that the snow survey locations were below average for snow depth and water content, when compared to the historical averages for March 15.

It was noted that Lake Superior water levels remains above average.

It was noted that the Government of Canada is looking to establish a new Canada Water Agency (CWA) that will focus on finding the best way to keep our water safe, clean, and well-managed by working together with provinces, territories, Indigenous communities, local authorities, scientists, and others.

The 32nd Annual Spring Melt Meeting was held on March 29, 2021 via Microsoft Teams. The annual meeting was held to discuss the spring melt conditions and to keep the lines of communications open with staff and personnel who may be involved during a flood emergency.

It was noted that LRCA staff were successful in executing a Transfer Payment Agreement with the MECP to implement the rehabilitation design plans for Fisherman's Park West and raise climate change awareness through volunteering and school events. Total funds received from MECP to support the project are \$47,400.00.

It was noted that in April, LRCA staff will be launching the 'Superior Stewards' Shoreline Protection Program through the LRCA's Stewardship webpage, social media, media releases, and E-newsletter. Additionally, two publicly accessible webinars will be hosted by Staff on April 15 and April 22 to provide attendees with an overview of the program, shoreline protection principles, best management and planting techniques, application process and requirements, and to answer questions.

It was noted that this year the Spring Water Awareness Program (SWAP) is being held in a virtual format.

It was noted that the 2021 Tree Seedling Assistance Program has been cancelled at the request of Hill's Greenhouses as they were unable to offer seedlings this year.

It was noted that due to COVID-19 the May 6, 2021 Wine Tasting and Dinner at Whitewater has been cancelled.

12. NEW BUSINESS

None.

13. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, April 28, 2021, at **5:00** p.m. (due to a conflict with NOMA) followed by a Source Protection Authority meeting.

14. AJOURNMENT

Resolution #50/21

Moved by Erwin Butikofer, Seconded by Allan Vis

“THAT: the time being 6:47 p.m. AND FURTHER THAT there being no further business THAT we adjourn.” CARRIED.

Chair

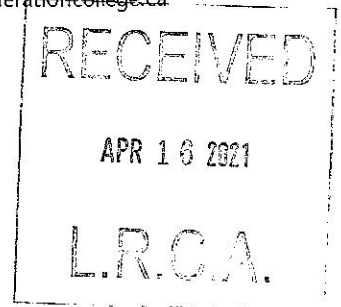
Chief Administrative Officer



P.O. Box 398, 1450 Nakina Drive, Thunder Bay, Ontario Canada P7C 4W1 Website: www.confederationcollege.ca

April 7, 2021

Mark Ambrose
PO Box 10427 Stn P 130 Conservation Road
Thunder Bay, ON, P7B 6T8



RE: Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Award

Dear Mark Ambrose,

On behalf of the Confederation College community, thank you for your support of our Student Awards Program. Your generous contribution helps deserving students of Confederation College "change their lives through learning". Thanks to the support of our donors, Confederation College students received scholarships, bursaries and awards that will assist with their ongoing journey to achieving their educational goals.

Kevin Ammatil of the Dental Hygiene program noted that the financial support from the awards program helps him ease his financial burdens, allowing him to focus on his studies. *"Getting financial support in the form of bursaries and scholarships eases my financial burdens and allows me to pursue my academic goals. My bursary will help me in covering the cost of books and instruments for the next semester, which is quite a relief. It is very delightful to see members of the community coming together to help students financially, which is motivating when living far away from my own family."*

We are pleased to announce this year's recipient(s) of your award as follows:

Jonathon Fogolin, Civil Engineering Technician

If you are once again able to help a deserving student, kindly respond by June 30, 2021. If we have not heard from you prior to June 30th, a member of our office will be in touch to discuss your award. As always, a charitable tax receipt will be issued for all eligible gifts.

Should you have any questions, or would like to further discuss your award, please contact the Department of Advancement at (807) 632-5678 or shelley.graham@confederationcollege.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shelley Graham", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Shelley Graham
Advancement Officer – Student Awards and Donor Relations

**2021 TREASURER'S REPORT
MONTHLY EXPENSES**

	2021 BUDGET	JANUARY	TOTAL TO DATE	BALANCE REMAINING
REVENUE				
Provincial Grants	287,047	28,440	68,440	218,607
Municipal Levy	1,668,402	-	1,668,402	-
Self Generated	213,229	21,522	64,275	148,954
Other Revenue	451,869	6,478	7,978	443,891
TOTAL REVENUE	2,620,547	56,440	1,809,095	811,452
EXPENSES				
Core Mandate Operating				
Administration	525,680	38,822	118,512	407,168
Community Relations	115,685	7,818	23,382	92,303
Natural Hazard and Protection Management	631,907	29,848	94,479	537,428
Conservation and Management of Cons. Auth. Lands	204,996	13,772	34,473	170,523
Drinking Water Source Protection	56,107	5,497	13,890	42,217
Total Core Mandate Operating	1,534,375	95,755	284,735	1,249,640
Non Core Mandate Operating				
Other Programming	382,608	46,301	71,302	311,306
Total None Core Mandate	382,608	46,301	71,302	311,306
Total Core and Non Core Mandate Operating	1,916,983	142,056	356,037	1,560,946
Core Mandate Capital				
Natural Hazard and Protection Management	426,018	305	17,953	408,065
Authority Office	25,200	-	-	25,200
Conservation and Management of Cons. Auth. Lands	252,346	317	945	251,401
Total Core Mandate Capital	703,564	622	18,897	684,667
Total Operating and Capital	2,620,547	142,677	374,934	2,245,613

Monthly Plan Input/Review and Fill Regulations Administration March 1 to 31, 2021											
Municipality	Minor Variance (A)	Consent (B)	Official Plan	Official Plan/ Zoning By- Law Comprehensive Review	Zoning By-Law (Z)	Subdivisions	Clearances	Reality Services	Lawyer Inquiries	Letter of Opinion (Other)	Total
City of Thunder Bay	A-08-2021 *							Portion of 8th Ave	224 Skyline Avenue		
								Southern Ave	Vaithalla Inn Hotel		
								Laneway Adj to 107 Matthews St.	430 McKellar Street N		
Total	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	7
Oliver Paipoonge		18/01/21					Candy Mountain Road				
		18/02/21									
		18/03/21									
		18/04/21									
Total	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	5
O'Connor									564 Highway 595		
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Neebing				Amendments to Official Plan Review					142 Cloud River Road West		
				Amendments to Zoning By- law Comprehensive Review							
Total	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
Shuniah							1875 Mackenzie Beach Ave		650 Highway 587		
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2
Conmee											
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gillies											
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dorion				Official Draft Plan Review							
Total	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Rural Planning Board											
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Monthly Total	1	4	0	3	0	0	2	3	6	0	19

Monthly Plan Input/Review and Fill Regulations Administration April 1 to April 20, 2021											
Municipality	Minor Variance (A)	Consent (B)	Official Plan	Official Plan/ Zoning By- Law Comprehensive Review	Zoning By-Law (Z)	Subdivisions	Clearances	Reality Services	Lawyer Inquiries	Letter of Opinion (Other)	Total
City of Thunder Bay								Piccadilly Ave 1105 Dawson Road	794 James St N	1501 Dease Street	
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	4
Oliver Paipoonge	18/05/21				ZBLA 01-2021						
Total	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
O'Connor											
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Neebing					201-2021						
Total	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Shuniah											
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Conmee											
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gillies											
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dorion					182 Valley Road						
Total	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Rural Planning Board											
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Monthly Total	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	2	1	1	8



Our File: 18-10-4

**Lakehead Region Conservation Authority
32nd Annual Spring Melt Meeting
2021 Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: March 29, 2021 at 2:00 pm

Location: Lakehead Region Conservation Authority
Virtual Meeting via MS Teams

In Attendance: Vanessa Sticca, City of Thunder Bay
Ian Spolijarich, City of Thunder Bay
Dennis Brescacin, City of Thunder Bay
Aaron Ward, City of Thunder Bay
Leslie McEachern, City of Thunder Bay
Sean Horan, Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge
Wayne Hanchard, Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge
Chris Bowles, Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge
Shara Lavallee, Township of Conmee
Kelly Johnson, Township of O'Connor
Lorna Buob, Township of O'Connor
Jason Bailey, Ontario Power Generation
Andrea Goold, Ontario Power Generation
Dave Pacholczak, Ontario Power Generation
Fergus Beattie, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
Kevin Brown, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
Marek Klich, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
Jason Boesche, Fort William Historical Park
Patrick Morash, Fort William Historical Park
John McClelland, Ministry of Transportation
Tammy Cook, Lakehead Region Conservation Authority
Scott Drebit, Lakehead Region Conservation Authority
Ryan Mackett, Lakehead Region Conservation Authority
Michelle Sixsmith, Lakehead Region Conservation Authority
Mark Ambrose, Lakehead Region Conservation Authority
Gail Willis, Lakehead Region Conservation Authority
Jessie McFadden, Lakehead Region Conservation Authority

Regrets: Umed Panu, LRCA Board Member
Andrew Foulds, LRCA Board Member
Grant Arnold, LRCA Board Member
Adam Tempelman, City of Thunder Bay

Spring Melt Meeting Minutes – March 29, 2021
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Adam Oatman, City of Thunder Bay
Jeff Track, City of Thunder Bay
Norm Gale, City of Thunder Bay
David Warwick, City of Thunder Bay
John Bilyk, City of Thunder Bay
Shaun Trondiak, City of Thunder Bay
Brad Adams, City of Thunder Bay
Keri Marshall, City of Thunder Bay
Karen Lewis, City of Thunder Bay
Michelle Warywoda, City of Thunder Bay
Kayla Dixon, City of Thunder Bay
Walter Turek, City of Thunder Bay
Lyle Pert, City of Thunder Bay
Don LaDelle, Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge
Leona Tarini, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
Scott Galloway, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
Rik Aikman, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
Emily Hawkins, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
Cathy Seeley, Ministry of Transportation
Dale Raison, Ontario Power Generation
Tana-Leigh Harty, Ontario Power Generation
Paul Greenwood, Municipality of Shuniah
Craig Baumann, Municipality of Shuniah
James Gillies, Township of Gillies
Art Labelle, Township of Gillies
Len Arps, Township of Conmee
Linda Racicot, Township of O'Connor
Barry Livingston, Municipality of Neebing
Don Fredrickson, Township of Dorion
Mavis Harris, Township of Dorion
Ryne Gilliam, Lakehead Region Conservation Authority

Item 1: Overview of the Provincial Flood Warning System

- A brief overview of the Flood Forecasting Program was given:
- *MNRF Role*
 - Maintain streamflow and precipitation networks.
 - Analyze streamflow and weather conditions and provide flood criteria mapping and daily precipitation forecasts.
 - Responsible to provide Provincial Flood Messaging to Conservation Authorities and MNRF Districts.

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- Provide Flood Forecasting to areas outside the jurisdiction of Conservation Authorities.
- *LRCA Role*
 - Maintain streamflow and precipitation networks.
 - Monitor and collect data related to rainfall, snow, ice conditions, groundwater levels and streamflow.
 - Monitor forecasted weather and runoff to predict the flows of rivers and streams in our area of jurisdiction.
 - Issue Watershed Condition Statements/Watch/Warning messages to Member Municipalities, affected agencies and news media.
 - Promote and participate in the development of Emergency Plans with Member Municipalities.
 - Participate in the Kam River Dam Safety Preparedness and Emergency Response Plan.
 - Interact with Provincial and Municipal Officials during an event.
 - Host annual Spring Melt Meeting.

Flood Warning System

FLOOD MESSAGE TERMINOLOGY:

- A Watershed Conditions Statement – Water Safety may be issued to advise of high flows, unsafe banks, melting ice or other factors that could be dangerous for recreational users such as anglers, canoeists, hikers, children, pets, etc. Flooding is not expected.
- A Watershed Conditions Statement – Flood Outlook may be issued to give early notice of the potential for flooding based on weather forecasts calling for heavy rain, snow melt, high wind or other conditions.
- A Flood Watch indicates that there is the potential for flooding within specific watercourses and municipalities.
- A Flood Warning indicates that flooding is imminent or occurring in specific watercourses or municipalities.
- The warning status will remain in effect until a Termination Message is issued.
- It was noted that Environment Canada has their own specific public altering criteria. An Environment Canada Weather Statement does not always result in a local LRCA issued Flood Message, as the expected rainfall may not result in riverine flooding.
- *Message Distribution*
 - All messages will be sent via fax and email to contacts.

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- Messages will be posted on the LRCA social media accounts on Facebook and Twitter (@lakeheadregion).
 - Fax and email contact information has been verified (annually updated).
 - In the event of a “Flood Watch”, verbal confirmation will be made with the City of Thunder Bay’s Pollution Control Plant, as well as the Reeve of Gillies when a certain water level is reached (10 year return period) on the Whitefish River (as per their request).
 - In the event of a “Flood Warning”, verbal confirmation will be made with a Municipal contact in each Member Municipality, MNRF, OPG and Fort William Historical Park. The City of Thunder Bay Police Water Commander and the Ontario Provincial Police will also receive verbal communication of a “Flood Warning”.
 - Messages are posted on the LRCA website and on social media.
 - Messages are posted on the MNRF Surface Water Monitoring Centre website.
- Flood Warning System Binder
 - Updated annually and will be distributed to Plan Holders by mail in 2021.
 - *Road Superintendents Role*
 - Report observed flooding to the LRCA Duty person.
 - If possible, document the event with photographs.
 - Municipalities are responsible to implement their Emergency Plans and conduct any remedial measures (i.e., sand bagging) if warranted.

Item 2: 2020 Year in Review

2020 Summary:

- Uneventful year in 2020.
- Issued one (1) Flood Outlook Message in the spring due to above average snowpack and some rainfall.
- Issued 11 Messages due to high Lake Superior water levels.
- Below average precipitation 8 out of 12 months.
- Low Water Condition May to end of September.
- Below average precipitation for the year (550 versus 722 mm average).
- Neebing-McIntyre Floodway did not divert in 2020.
- Record breaking water levels on Lake Superior during January and February.

Item 3: Current Conditions

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Ontario Power Generation Update

- Kam Basin temperature averaged in the normal range in 2020. Warmer weather this winter in 2021.
- Received 4 months of normal precipitation and 11 months of abnormally low precipitation out of the last 15 months leading to dry conditions.
- Kam River basin snow survey indicated that snowpack and water content was below average as of March 15, 2021.
- The Dog Lake draw down has been above the preferred elevation and expect to be just below the peak around April 1 when Dog Lake will begin its refill.
- Kam River Flows below the Kakabeka Falls GS has been very dry and been running at almost minimum flow all winter long.
- OPG has simplified public access to water level data online at OPG.com. Current watershed conditions and water levels at the OPG sites are available for download.

LRCA Summary

Snow surveys – March 15, 2021 snow survey

- Below average depth and water content in the snowpack for this time of year at Hazelwood, McVicar, and Pennock.
- March 15, 2021 snow surveys indicated 14.8 to 42.1 centimetres of snowpack, with 52.0 to 130.8 millimetres of water equivalent. Averages for March 15 are 33.6 to 53.6 centimetres and 82.3 to 130.3 millimetres of water equivalent.

Provincial Groundwater Network Monitoring Wells – spring levels

- March groundwater levels are lower in all the wells compared to 2020 levels, except for Murillo and Birch Beach which are higher.
- 2020 levels compared to 2021 levels:
 - Murillo +0.12 m
 - Kakabeka -0.11 m
 - Loon Lake -1.47 m
 - Birch Beach +0.19 m
 - Wishart -0.64 m
 - Hazelwood -0.70 m

Area Watercourses - review of series of photographs from March 18, 2021

- McVicar Creek near Jean Street – snow covered, no open channel.
- Kam River - Harstone Bridge – snow covered, no open channel.
- Neebing Weir – mostly snow free, no open channel.

Future Forecasts (as of March 26, 2021)

- 45 mm precipitation/snow melt predicted to be required in 24 hours for flash flooding.

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- 1 mm forecasted for next 5 days.
- Long term forecast indicating generally above average temperatures for highs and above freezing temperature lows for next two weeks.
- 3-month temperature forecast (Env. Canada) – above average temperatures forecast for next 3 months (April, May, June 2021).
- 3-month precipitation forecast (Env. Canada) – near normal precipitation forecast for next 3 months (April, May, June 2021).

Current Conditions Summary (as of March 29, 2021)

- Uneventful spring freshet so far (from a riverine perspective).
- Below average snow depth and water content for this time of year.
- Ground is still frozen.
- Watercourses are starting to open up.
- Area watercourses below bank full conditions.
- No observed or reported ice jamming at this time.
- Ice jamming possible in the usual locations.
- Slow snowmelt with minimal precipitation forecasted for the next 2 weeks.
- Probable declaration of Low Water Condition beginning of April.

Item 4: Lake Superior Levels

- Lake Superior water levels continue to be very high.
- The lake level is 14 cm below last years beginning of March level and is 19 cm above the beginning of March average.

Lake Superior Ice Coverage

- As of March 28, 2021, Lake Superior had approximately 0.9% ice cover remaining, compared to 1.6% in 2020.

Item 5: LRCA Updates

Floodplain mapping updates have been completed on:

- McIntyre River – 2015
- Neebing River – 2018
- McVicar Creek – 2019
- Pennock Creek – 2020
- Mosquito Creek - 2020
- Kaministiquia River – 2020

Wetland Evaluation studies completed by watershed:

- McVicar Creek – 2016
- McIntyre River – 2018

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- Mosquito Creek - 2019
- Neebing River – 2019
- Wetland boundaries delineation underway in 2021

Item 6: Flood Warning System Contact Booklet

- The updated Flood Warning Contact Booklet will be distributed by mail. An electronic version in pdf format can be sent by request, if needed.
- Copies will be mailed to those not in attendance who are a holder of a Flood Warning System Binder.

Minutes recorded by Gail Willis, LRCA.

Please report any errors or omissions immediately.