LAKEHEAD REGION
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

NEEBING-MCINTYRE FLOODWAY

March, 2017

The LRCA owns and maintains the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway, which provides flood protection to the Lower Neebing River and Intercity area. Construction of the Floodway was completed in 1984.

The main features of the Floodway include:

- Diversion Structure at Ford Street
- Diversion Channel
- Sediment Trap at Balmoral Street
- Sediment Trap at CPR Bridge
- Widened and deepened Floodway channel out to Lake Superior.

The design capacity of the Floodway is to provide protection up to and including the "Regional Storm", which is a rainfall event in which 193 millimetres of rain falls in 12-hours.

The Diversion Structure, located on the Neebing River near Ford Street and Parkway Drive, has an opening which limits the flow in the lower Neebing River. During high water events, the Floodway provides protection by limiting flow volumes in the lower Neebing River to approximately 29 cubic metres per second. When water levels exceed the design capacity of the opening, excess water is diverted down the Diversion Channel and into the widened deepened Floodway Channel.

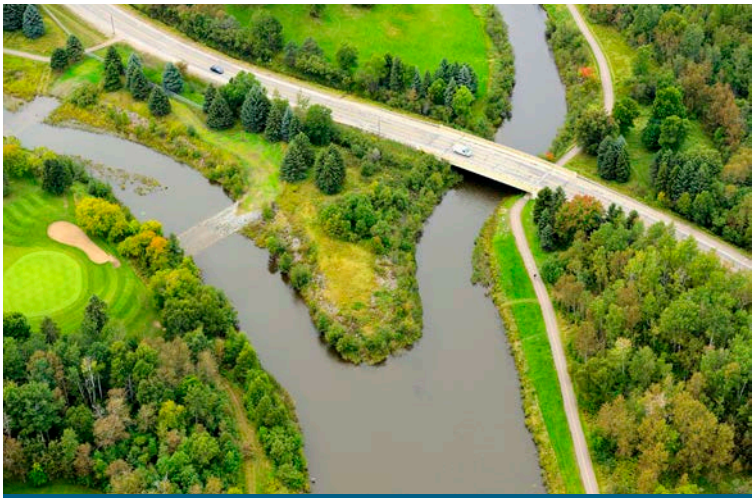
The Diversion Channel is 1.5 kilometres long and runs adjacent to Ford Street and Chapple's Park. Near William Street, the Diversion Channel meets the McIntyre River. From this point, the river was widened to serve as the Floodway Channel and can accommodate the excess flows from the Neebing and McIntyre Rivers.

Intercity Shopping Centre, 1977, prior to construction of the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway

By reducing the risk of flooding in the Intercity area, significant development has been able to take place, including the Thunder Centre, and the expansion of Intercity Shopping Centre.

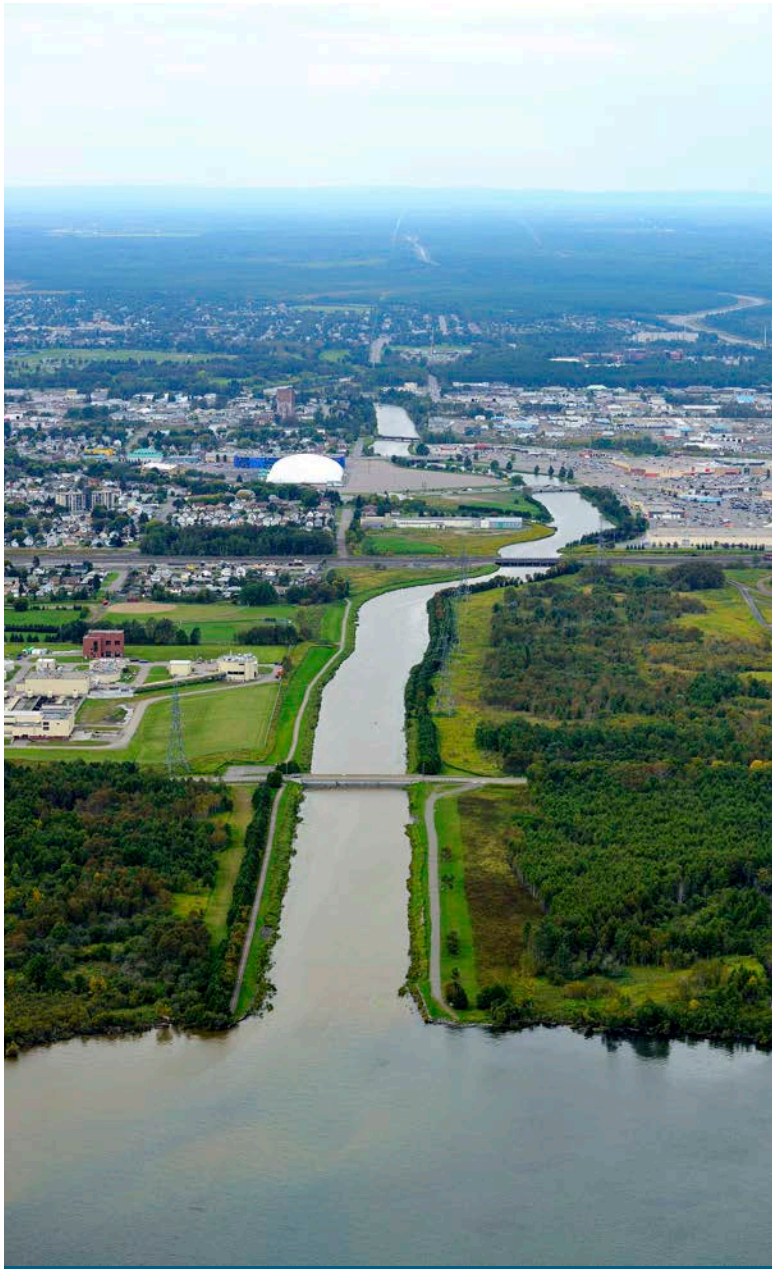
Construction of the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway has provided a valuable legacy to the City of Thunder Bay. A vast green space was created along the Floodway and, in partnership with the City of Thunder Bay, the LRCA has constructed six kilometres of access pathways along the Floodway, which connect to the City's network of Recreation Trails.

The Floodway continues to protect the City of Thunder Bay more than 30 years after its construction.



Aerial view of the Diversion Channel and McIntyre River meeting the Floodway Channel

Both minor and major maintenance is conducted to ensure the integrity of the Floodway is maintained. Two sediment traps are required to be dredged approximately every 10 years, and removal of sediment at the lip of Diversion Channel is required every four years. This maintenance ensures that the Floodway remains operational and capable of handling rainfall up to and including the Regional Storm. The LRCA also hires two seasonal staff annually to undertake routine Floodway maintenance such as grass cutting, brushing, etc.



Aerial view of the widened, deepened Floodway Channel as it outlets into Lake Superior

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