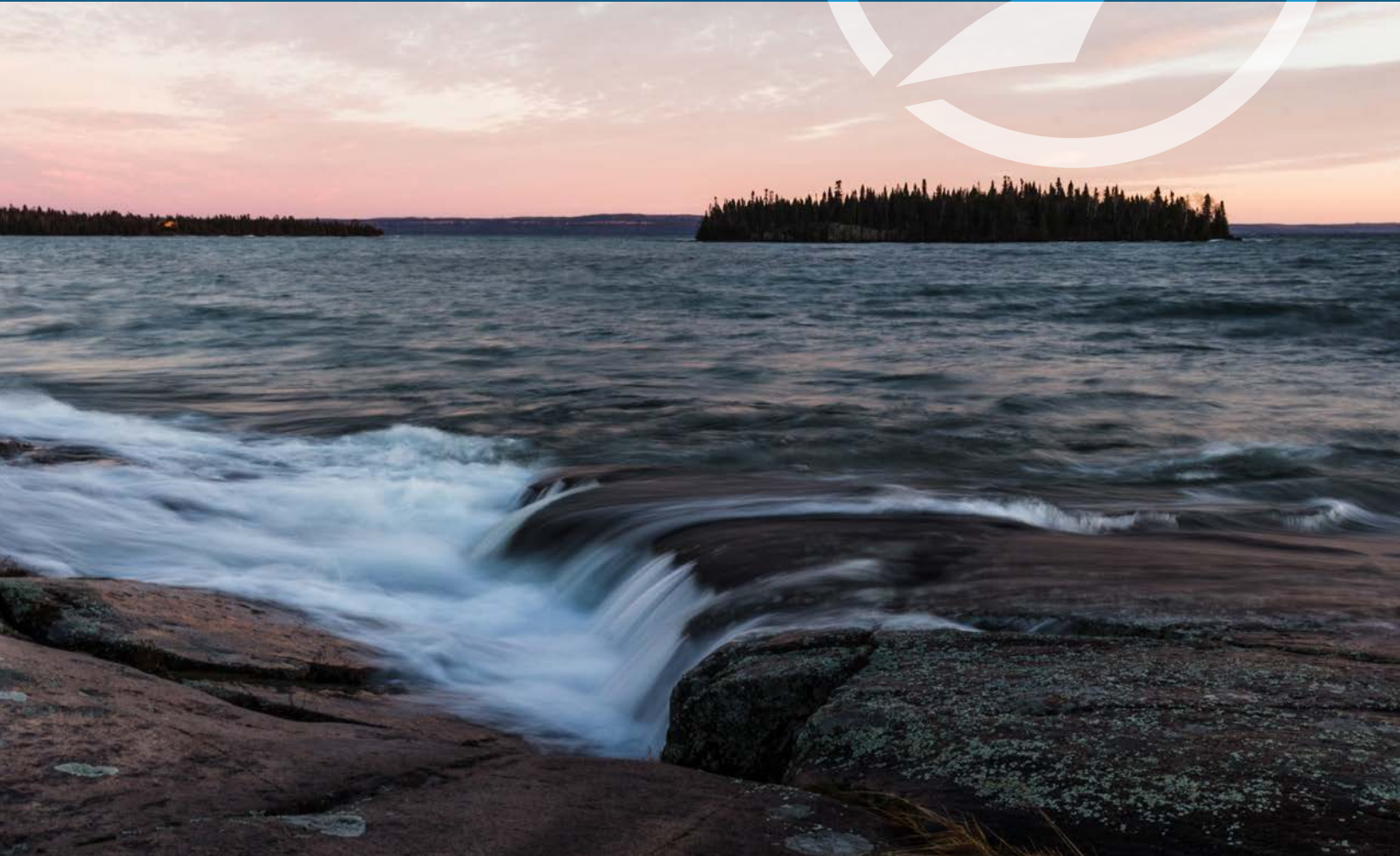


LAKEHEAD REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN
2018 – 2022



LAKEHEAD REGION
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

*Conserve Today...
for a Better Tomorrow*



LAKEHEAD REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority is a community-based environmental agency responsible for the wise management of renewable natural resources within the Lakehead Watershed. The LRCA was formed in 1963 by an expansion of the Neebing Valley Conservation Authority, which was constituted in 1954. We provide quality of life and value-added services to residents through our programs including watershed management, erosion control and mitigation, flood forecasting and warning, recreation, water level monitoring, plan input and review, environmental education and stewardship. As a leader in environmentally-sustainable practices and responsible stewardship, we look forward to strong collaborations to achieve the priorities in our inaugural Strategic Plan.

VISION

A healthy, safe and sustainable Lakehead Watershed for future generations.

MISSION

To lead the conservation and protection of the Lakehead Watershed.

FOUR PRIORITIES OF THE FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN



CONSERVE & SUSTAIN

Enhance the management and sustainability of natural habitats and ecosystems through an integrated approach.



PROTECT & SUPPORT

Safeguard people, property and communities through robust watershed management.



CONNECT & EXPLORE

Maximize intergenerational educational, engagement, and recreational opportunities through strong collaborations.



GOVERN & ENHANCE

Distinguish the organization as a leader in environmentally-sustainable practices and responsible stewardship.



MESSAGE FROM SENIOR LEADERSHIP

During 2017, the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority embarked on the process of initiating our first Strategic Plan. Implementing this five-year strategy from 2018 to 2022 will play an important role in shaping the LRCA's planning, decision-making, and collaboration with all of our community stakeholders, including our Member Municipalities: the City of Thunder Bay, the Municipalities of Oliver Paipouge, Neebing and Shuniah and the Townships of O'Connor, Conmee, Gillies and Dorion.

The Strategic Plan is the result of consultation with our Board of Directors, staff, key partners and the public who are equally committed to protecting the Lakehead Watershed. These meaningful contributions will set forth the tone for the next five years and have lasting benefits for current and future generations.

"Conserve Today... for a Better Tomorrow" provided the inspiration to define the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority's Vision of a healthy, safe and sustainable Lakehead Watershed for future generations and its Mission to lead the conservation and protection of the Lakehead Watershed.

This Strategic Plan will provide a trail map to build on and enhance all facets of our organization with a focus on: conserving and sustaining our natural habitats; protecting and supporting our communities; providing opportunities for people to connect and explore; and enhancing our organizational governance.

As we move forward over the next five years, we're motivated to realize the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority's potential to have a positive impact internally within our organization as well as within our community.

Donna Blunt
Chair, Board of Directors

Tammy Cook
Chief Administrative Officer



CONSERVE & SUSTAIN

Enhance the management and sustainability of natural habitats and ecosystems through an integrated approach.

INITIATIVES

- Support, strengthen and encourage environmental stewardship and sustainability.
- Manage future growth through a systematic evaluation of assets and landholdings.
- Collaborate with member municipalities and community partners to foster an integrated watershed management approach.
- Optimize decision-making by sharing data and knowledge.

8 Member
Municipalities

+2,700 km²
Area of Jurisdiction

+135,000
Trees planted through
the Private Landowners
Tree Seedling
Assistance Program



PROTECT & SUPPORT

Safeguard people, property and communities through robust watershed management.

INITIATIVES

- Increase awareness of the impacts of floods and hazards and the importance of mitigation.
- Demonstrate effective land-use planning and emergency flood management through a collaborative approach.
- Maintain and enhance flood and erosion control infrastructure to minimize the impacts of flooding, erosion, and sedimentation.
- Evaluate the priorities for the protection and management of wetlands and natural heritage features.
- Integrate the impacts of climate change into future actions.
- Align watershed decision-making with stakeholders outside of the jurisdiction.

9 Streamflow Gauges

11 Precipitation Gauges

3 Snow Survey Sites

Riverine flood protection provided by Neebing-McIntyre Floodway to the lower Neebing River and Intercity Areas



CONNECT & EXPLORE

Maximize intergenerational educational, engagement, and recreational opportunities through strong collaborations.

INITIATIVES

- Emphasize a sense of place through positive and equitable interactive experiences.
- Develop a communications strategy to engage diverse stakeholders.
- Strengthen a shared interest in conservation through collaboration with existing and new partners.
- Manage recreational areas for current and future generations.

+300,000

visitors to our
Conservation
Areas annually

Yearly Education
Programming to

+2,200

participants of
all ages

+2,500

hectares of
land, including
Conservation
Areas, Forest
Management
Properties,
floodplain
lands, nature
reserves and
undeveloped
holdings



GOVERN & ENHANCE

Distinguish the organization as a leader in environmentally-sustainable practices and responsible stewardship.

INITIATIVES

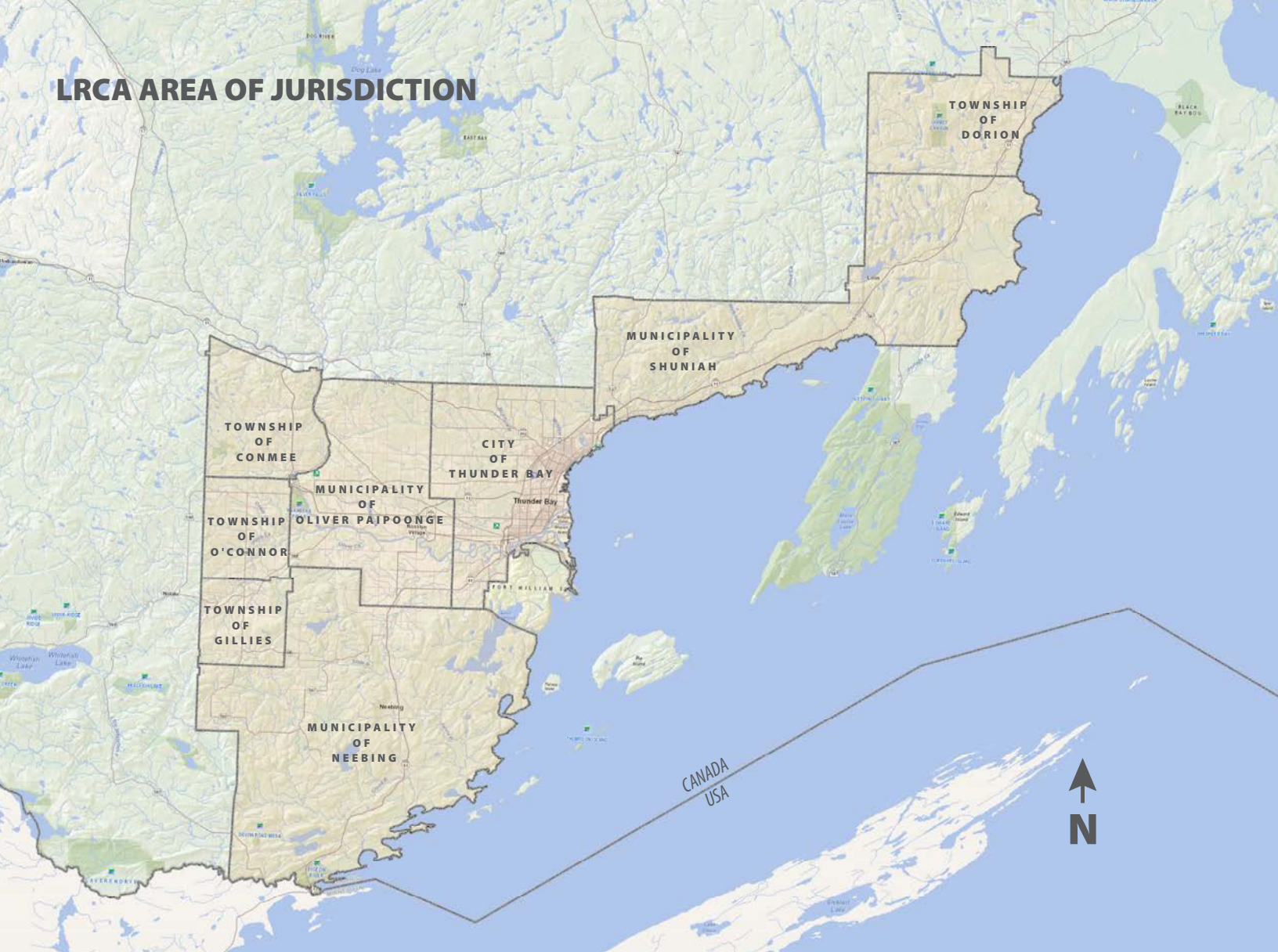
- Optimize organizational performance through policy and measurable actions to improve accountability and transparency.
- Build a resilient financial model based on capacity, capabilities and public expectations.
- Create a dynamic culture of learning, safety, and positivity.
- Increase awareness of Indigenous knowledge and practices for integration into organizational decision-making.

1 of 2 Conservation Authorities
on the Lake Superior shoreline

1 of 5 Conservation Authorities
in Northern Ontario

1 of 36 Conservation Authorities
in the Province of Ontario

LRCA AREA OF JURISDICTION



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LAKEHEAD REGION
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY