

03-23-BOD Agenda - Amended

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority

Mar 24, 2023 at 9:00 AM EDT to Mar 24, 2023 at 12:00 PM EDT

Agenda

1. Events

Tiffin Nature Program - Full Day

Date: Every Thursday

Location: Tiffin Centre for Conservation

Tiffin Nature Program (Session 4: Feb-Mar) - Half Day

Date: Every Tuesday

Location: Tiffin Centre for Conservation

Spring Tonic Maple Syrup Festival

Date: April 1-2, 9

Location: Tiffin Conservation Area, 8195 8th Line, Utopia ON L0M 1T0

2. Call to Order

3. Land Acknowledgement

The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Board acknowledges that we are situated on the traditional land of the Anishinaabeg. The Anishinaabeg include the Odawa, Saulteaux, Anishinaabeg, Mississauga and Algonquin who spoke several languages including Anishinaabemowin and Potawatomi. We are dedicated to honouring Indigenous history and culture and committed to moving forward in the spirit of reconciliation and respect with all First Nation, Métis and Inuit people.

4. Declaration of Pecuniary and Conflict of Interest

5. Motion to Adopt the Agenda

Recommendation:

RESOLVED THAT: the agenda for the Board of Directors meeting #03-23-BOD dated March 24, 2023 be approved as amended.

6. Announcements

The NVCA is pleased to announce that our 2022 Annual Report is now available and posted on our website.

7. Presentations

There are no presentations for this meeting.

8. Deputations

There are no deputations for this meeting.

9. Hearings

There are no hearings for this meeting.

10. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

Board Members are requested to identify items from the Consent List that they wish to have considered for separate discussion.

11. Adoption of Consent List and Identification of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

Recommendation:

RESOLVED THAT: agenda item number(s), 12.2.1 was identified as requiring separate discussion, be referred for discussion under Agenda Item #9; and

FURTHER THAT: all Consent List Agenda Items not referred for separate discussion be adopted as submitted to the board and staff be authorized to take all necessary action required to give effect to same; and

FURTHER THAT: any items in the Consent List not referred for separate discussion, and for which conflict has been declared, are deemed not to have been voted on or discussed by the individual making the declaration.

12. Consent List

12.1. Adoption of Minutes

Recommendation:

RESOLVED THAT: the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting 02-23-BOD dated on February 24, 2023 be approved.

12.2. Staff Reports

12.2.1. Staff Report No. 08-03-23-BOD from Sheryl Flannagan, Director, Corporate Services

Recommendation:

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 08-03-23-BOD regarding the NVCA's 2023 Budget be received; and

FURTHER THAT: the 2022 budget, operational and capital, as presented in the 2023 Draft Budget booklet be approved; and

FURTHER THAT: each watershed member municipality be formally advised of their respective share of the levies, operational and capital.

12.2.2. Staff Report No. 09-03-23-BOD from Doug Hevenor, Chief Administrative Officer

Recommendation:

RESOLVED THAT: the update on Memorandums of Understanding and Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority's (NVCA) progress report, be received; and

FURTHER THAT: NVCA's Board of Directors approves this progress report in fulfillment of the fourth progress report to be submitted to the Province by April 1, 2023, as required by O.Reg. 687/21: Transition Plans and Agreements for Programs and Services under Section 21.1.2 of the Act.

12.2.3. Staff Report No. 10-03-23-BOD from Mark Hartley, Senior Engineer

Recommendation:

RESOLVED THAT: the Board of Directors receive Staff Report No. 10-03-23-BOD for information and;

FURTHER THAT: the Board of Directors approve a contract with Janalco Ltd., replacing Jim Collis for an upset limit of \$99,755.00.

12.2.4. Staff Report No. 11-03-23-BOD from Maria Leung, Senior Communications Specialist

Recommendation:

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 11-03-23-BOD regarding NVCA Communications – *February 11, 2023 – March 10, 2023*, be received.

13. Other Business

14. In-Camera

Recommendation:

RESOLVED THAT: this meeting of the Board of Directors No. 03-23-BOD move into closed session at _____ to address matters pertaining to:

a). Litigation, or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the authority.

15. Out of In-Camera

Recommendation:

RESOLVED THAT: the Board of Directors rise from in-camera at _____ and report progress.

15.1. Closed Session Staff Report No. 12-03-23-BOD Voting

Recommendation:

RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Directors receive Staff Report No. 12-03-23-BOD regarding the referral of a Minor Variance Decision for 6888 County Road 10 to the Ontario Land Tribunal [OLT]; and

FURTHER THAT: The Board directs staff to engage NVCA legal counsel (Sarah Hahn of Barriston Law) to represent the NVCA along with staff at the OLT hearing.

16. Adjourn

Recommendation:

RESOLVED THAT: this meeting adjourn at _____ to meet again on April 28, 2023 or at the call of the Chair.

2022

NVCA ANNUAL REPORT



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Our Vision

A sustainable watershed that is resilient to the effects of climate change, urban growth and other stressors and provides for safe, healthy and prosperous people and communities.

Our Mission

Working together to deliver innovative, integrated watershed management that is responsive to the environmental, economic and social sustainability of the Nottawasaga Watershed.

What We Value

An abundance of clean water, clean air and fertile soils that provide for healthy people and ecosystems.

Natural heritage systems and the ecosystem services they provide, particularly as they support resilience to the effects of a changing climate.

Distinctive landforms and waterways including the Georgian Bay coastline, Niagara Escarpment, Minesing Wetlands and others that give our watershed a unique sense of place.

Quality recreational opportunities that our hills, forests, meadows, wetlands, waterways and coastline provide for residents and tourists alike.

A wealth of resources within the capacity of our watershed to provide for thriving communities, successful economies and sustainable agriculture, now and in the future.

Message from the CAO

As we welcome a new year and a new Board of Directors, we mustn't forget the great work the entire NVCA team accomplished in 2022. This year was a pivotal year for us. As we were navigating the changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act*, we were faced with more changes including Bill 23, the *More Homes Built Faster Act*.

The NVCA team overcame these hurdles and remained steadfast at protecting our watershed from pressures such as climate change and development.

As we face these mounting challenges, there has never been a better time to ensure our partnerships with municipalities, funders and watershed residents remain strong.

Together, we will ensure our promises to protect and manage drinking water sources, rivers and streams, natural hazards and the lands we were charged to conserve are kept.

We will continue to guide our decisions based on an integrated watershed management approach by balancing human, environmental and economic needs. The tools in the *Conservation Authorities Act* and *Planning Act* will also help ensure that communities in the Nottawasaga Watershed are well planned and are desirable places to live in.

I hope you enjoy this annual report, where we highlight the work that our passionate and knowledgeable team accomplished to protect and enhance our watershed.



Doug Hevenor
Chief Administrative Officer



Climate Change

Climate change has been a hot topic for our funders, partners and supporters. Some municipalities in the Nottawasaga Watershed, such as the City of Barrie, the Township of Mulmur, the Town of Collingwood and Town of Wasaga Beach have already declared climate emergencies.

According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the next few years are critical for slowing greenhouse emissions. Recognizing the importance of responding to climate change, NVCA released the 2022 – 2025 Climate Change Action Plan In 2022.

This plan addresses both threats and opportunities of climate change and summarizes the actions that will drive our watershed to be better prepared for change.

Some actions were already completed, such as the installation of electric vehicle charging stations and implementing a hybrid work model for staff. With the help of funders, partners and volunteers, NVCA planted over 100,000 trees and restored many kilometres of rivers, streams and fish and wildlife habitat.

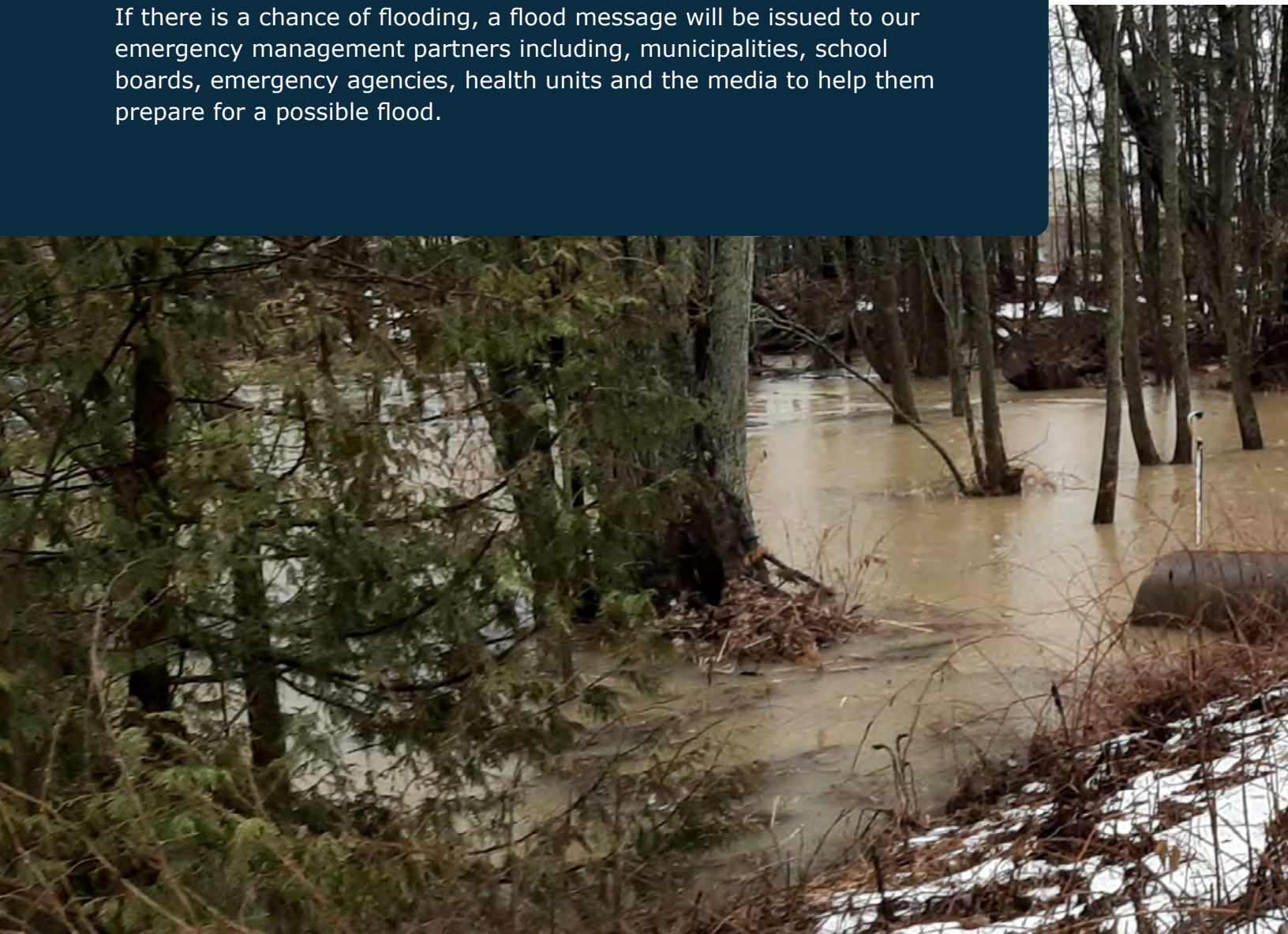
NVCA will report annually on the progress of implementing the Climate Change Action Plan and is committed to work with our partners to face the challenges that our communities and ecosystems face.

Flood forecasting and warning

There are over 6,100 km of streams and rivers in the Nottawasaga Watershed. NVCA is responsible for monitoring these watercourses for chances of them overtopping their banks, causing flooding in nearby communities in the Nottawasaga Watershed.

Every day, NVCA's Flood Management team works closely with partners to monitor key watercourses and weather stations in the watershed. They combine this information with the weather forecast to determine the chance of flooding in the next two or three days.

If there is a chance of flooding, a flood message will be issued to our emergency management partners including, municipalities, school boards, emergency agencies, health units and the media to help them prepare for a possible flood.



Flood mapping

NVCA and the Township of Clearview successfully applied for a grant from the Flood Hazard Identification and Mapping Program to help improve flood hazard mapping through the Village of Creemore. This work will continue through 2023 and be completed by March 31, 2024.

Pretty River Dike

NVCA continued to work with the Town of Collingwood to maintain the Pretty River Dike to help reduce the risk of flooding in the urban areas of Collingwood. While considering the ecological functions of the corridor, vegetation growing along the sides of the dike must be removed from time to time to ensure its full functionality.



Planning and Regulations

NVCA is responsible for directing new development outside of natural hazards such as floodplains, steep slopes, dynamic beaches and other hazardous lands to protect public safety. Staff also worked to ensure development does not impact sensitive environmental areas such as wetlands, shorelines and watercourses.

Regulations and permitting

In 2022, the Regulations team continued to work with property owners, developers and municipal partners to provide high quality review services for permit and planning applications. This included addressing the recent changes in Bill 23, the *More Homes Built Faster Act*, and responding to an increased volume of complex files involving natural hazards and non-compliance cases.

Non-Compliance

NVCA worked to resolve 103 non-compliance matters under Ontario Regulation 172/06 in 2022. The Regulations team worked with landowners with support from municipal partners to resolve many of these matters through permitting or voluntarily removal and restoration.





Development planning

As experts in natural hazards in the Nottawasaga Watershed, NVCA's Planning Services team work closely with municipalities, developers and consultants to find a balance between development, protecting lives and property from natural hazards and preserving watershed health.

This work begins early in the development planning process. NVCA's engineers, planners, ecologists and groundwater specialists review the proposed development plan to identify potential risks and features that may be impacted by the development. This information is communicated to developers and municipalities, and may include requests for supplementary information such as environmental impact studies, natural hazard studies and stormwater management studies.

NVCA has established partnership agreements with municipalities to identify key roles and services in the development plan review process. Examples include expertise in natural hazards, stormwater management and source water protection. The partnership agreements help ensure that development application reviews are coordinated and streamlined.

Removing barriers to better customer service

NVCA continues to implement measures that enhance clients' experience by providing clear information and exploring opportunities to automate our application processes.

The Regulations team also prioritized and streamlined files to increase efficiency and explored the best way to automate data management. NVCA also contracted a consulting firm to examine current fees and opportunities to expand the level of service for our partners and watershed residents.

Modernizing data management

A significant portion of NVCA's Planning and Regulations staff time is spent on administration tasks, including processing applications, data entry, preparing fee requests, invoices and responding to status requests.

Recognizing efficiencies can be created through technology, NVCA is investigating opportunities for a file data management system to reduce the resources required for manual data entry. This would allow the Regulations and Planning teams to focus on application reviews and provide better customer service. The Information Management team will first look at upgrading the current system before exploring other software solutions.

Review of Planning Services and Fees

Between 2018 and 2021, NVCA's Planning and Regulations teams have seen a 75% increase in workload with the same staffing levels, placing tremendous pressure on the team to meet provincial and municipal review timelines. These delays in services have resulted in reduced efficiency in recognizing user fee revenues.

NVCA has hired Watson and Associates Economists Ltd. to examine current fees along with opportunities to expand services in order to meet the needs and expectations of our partners, current legislation, as well as to be more consistent with other conservation authorities



Better Communications

The Planning Services and Communication teams worked together to help watershed residents better understand the NVCA permitting process.

These efforts included updating the permit and regulations section of NVCA's website, creating a new brochure, presenting to real estate agents and developing animated graphics to illustrate hazards regulated by NVCA.

This effort will continue in 2023 with the goal to provide enhanced customer service to NVCA's watershed residents and to increase familiarization with the regulations and permitting processes.





Ensuring a net gain for natural features in the Nottawasaga Watershed

Population growth and the resulting urbanization, presents a challenge for the protection and enhancement of wetlands and natural areas throughout the Nottawasaga Watershed.

In 2021, NVCA's Board of Directors approved the Achieving Net Gains through Ecological Offsetting Policy. With this new policy, developers must avoid and minimize the impact to natural features, such as wetlands. If impacts to these natural features could not be avoided, developers must rehabilitate, restore or recreate the features and functions of the natural areas.

In 2022, NVCA received over \$241,000 from developers to offset impacts on natural features that could not be avoided. NVCA's Stewardship team has already started using this funding to undertake ecological restoration projects in the watershed.



Ecological Restoration





Healthy watersheds are the work of many hands

In 2022, over 1,000 volunteers and dozens of landowners and farmers worked with NVCA's Stewardship team on over 80 practical and meaningful projects across the watershed.

Additionally, over 1,000 people participated in workshops, community meetings and events to learn more about the Nottawasaga Watershed and how residents can help make positive impacts to the environment in their communities.

These hands-on projects include farm practices to reduce pollution and restore habitat. They also helped to protect water quality, biodiversity and create green infrastructure to mitigate and adapt to a changing climate.

Not only do these projects benefit residents throughout our 18 watershed municipalities, they also extend into Georgian Bay and the larger Great Lakes system, making it a better place to live, work and play.

Nottawasaga River Restoration Project

The Nottawasaga River Restoration Program is a stream restoration initiative coordinated by NVCA and Nottawasaga Futures – South Simcoe Streams Network. Staff and volunteers worked to improve the water quality in the Upper Nottawasaga River and tributaries such as Pine River and Sheldon Creek to improve the overall quality of the Nottawasaga River.

These efforts help enhance the world class trout and salmon sports fishery found in the Nottawasaga River. Recreational fisheries provide important economic benefits for many municipalities within the Nottawasaga Watershed.

The Nottawasaga River is also home to native species such as brook trout and river burbot, as well as two species at risk – lake sturgeon and northern brook lamprey. All of these fish rely on healthy waterways to thrive.

In 2022, NVCA’s River Restoration team completed several large, multi-year projects – including one of Southern Ontario’s largest river restoration projects to date.





Restoring the Pine River

In 2022, NVCA's River Restoration team embarked on a new river restoration initiative for the Pine River in Township of Mulmur.

To begin, volunteers secured Christmas trees to the bottom of the eroding banks to control erosion. A large excavator machine then inserted logs and tree roots to the bank to create fish habitat and further stabilize the bank.

The excavator increased flood capacity by lowering stream banks and also added natural sod, trees and shrubs to the bank to help further protect it from erosion. Lastly, volunteers planted thousands of native trees and shrubs along the stream to provide shade to cool the water in the river during the summer.

The Nottawasaga River Restoration Project was funded by Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Ontario Trillium Foundation, H. John McDonald Foundation, Takla Foundation, Great Lakes Local Action Fund, Lake Huron-Georgian Bay Watershed Community Action Initiative, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Ontario Trillium Foundation, Environment and Climate Change Canada, World Wildlife Fund Canada, Mansfield Ski Club, Friends of the Pine River and Bass Pro Shops – Cabelas Outdoor Fund.

Building the Mad River Restoration Plan

Through monitoring river temperatures in the Mad River, the River Restoration team found fish and wildlife habitat in the river is in decline. To improve water quality, NVCA partnered with the Friends of the Mad River to start the Mad River Enhancement Program.

In 2022, NVCA's River Restoration team collected information to have a better understanding of the current condition of the river. This included water temperature, physical makeup of the river and fish populations.

So far, the team has identified abundant rainbow trout populations as well as river burbot, a native cold-water fish, previously not recorded in the Mad River. The team also discovered that there may have been an island in the middle of the river that helped to slow down the flow of the water.

The Friends of the Mad River will continue to raise funds for further research opportunities and hope to begin stream restoration work in 2023.





Fighting the 'Phrag'

Phragmites australis ssp. australis (European Common Reed) is an invasive perennial grass that has spread rapidly throughout Ontario, causing severe impacts to our communities and ecosystems. It forms thick stands that chokes out native vegetation. It limits shoreline access, impeding recreational activities like swimming and boating and degrades shoreline ecosystems. This tall grass spreads rapidly and can take over wetlands harming turtle, bird and native plant habitat. It is most easily managed when stands are small or still establishing, and requires annual monitoring to ensure effective control.

Since 2014, NVCA's Stewardship and Watershed Science teams have been working with the Town of Collingwood, Blue Mountain Watershed Trust, Georgian Bay Forever and community groups in the Silver Creek Wetland Complex to remove *Phragmites* in an effort to control the spread of this invasive plant.

In 2022, staff and volunteers only found a few stands of *Phragmites* remaining and were left wondering if they were winning the battle to removing *Phragmites* from the Nottawasaga Bay Shoreline, or will this invasive species return once lake levels decrease.



Creating resilient watersheds with natural infrastructure

About 681 km² of the watershed is located in floodplains, which represent about 18% of the Nottawasaga Watershed. As the watershed experiences the effects of development and climate change, natural hazards may be impacted.

NVCA's Stewardship team has been working to improve resiliency for flood and erosion by expanding green infrastructure to create landscapes that can better absorb water. These projects include restoring grasslands, forests and wetlands. When planted on critical groundwater recharge areas, these natural systems also help recharge aquifers and high quality drinking water sources.

This work is also key to protecting biodiversity and building resiliency to climate change. Additionally, many of these sites are located in the Greenbelt and other areas that connect wildlife habitats, helping to promote species migrations.



Stewardship on the farm

Consider this – every cow can produce about 33 billion fecal bacteria and 0.3 kg of phosphorus a day. Each kilogram of phosphorus that flows into rivers and streams can grow up to a tonne of algae. Well managed manure can be a wonderful, carbon-rich fertilizer for cropland and pastures.

Without proper management, this can create devastating effects to the Nottawasaga River, impacting water quality for livestock and causing algae blooms that harms fish and wildlife. Recreational activities like fishing and visits to Wasaga Beach will also be unsafe as provincial recreational water quality guidelines may be exceeded. A little prevention goes a long way.

Many farmers have long practiced good stewardship and many are interested in doing more! NVCA's Healthy Waters Program helps support sustainable agricultural practices with project cost-sharing, technical advice and workshops.

Projects in 2022 included the installation of manure management systems, fencing to restrict livestock from sensitive streams and wetlands, and cover crops to help keep topsoil on farms, which increases productivity and reduces runoff. Additionally, farmers worked with NVCA to complete clean-water diversion projects around barnyards.

Although project grants provide some assistance, it is important to recognize the significant contribution of time and money from the landowners. NVCA also assists by waiving regulatory permit fees for eligible stewardship projects.

Utopia Experimental Farm

NVCA is excited to be part of the Utopia Farmland Project – a soil health farming research project. This is a multi-year regenerative farming initiative, to transition from conventional farming to one focused on soil health, water quality, soil conservation, biodiversity enhancements and climate change mitigation.

This multi-year project began in 2021 has a value of \$150,000 to date. It has engaged over 30 volunteers, who've contributed over 700 hours of their time.

Partners and supporters include the Compost Council of Canada, Canadian Agricultural Partnership/Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs, Dalhousie University, A & L Canada Laboratories, Miller Compost, North Line Industries, Scott & Lynn Dobson, Ian McLachlan, Visions of Utopia, Joe Pantalone, Antler Family, FITEC, Overton Environmental and World Wildlife Foundation.

The advisory board of the project includes Scientific Researchers from Agriculture & AgriFood Canada, Quebec Ministry of Agriculture, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs, International contacts in Australia, United States, the Americas.



Drinking water protection

Unused wells can pose a threat to drinking water sources. Surface contaminants like bacteria can use them as a shortcut to enter deeper aquifers. Research has shown that about 30% - 50% of private wells fail their drinking water tests, primarily due to bacteria and nitrate from failing septic systems or manure leaching.

In 2022, NVCA provided grants to five residents to assist with the cost to properly decommission their unused wells.





Grassland restoration

Compared to European pasture grasses, native prairie grasses have roots that can extend a few meters deep, far deeper than most trees, and much deeper than non-native grass species. As a result, native grasslands are important areas for flood protection and carbon sequestration. They are also critical to providing habitat for species at risk such as bobolink and meadowlark as well as numerous pollinators.

Over 97% of native grasslands have been lost in Southern Ontario since post European Colonization, resulting in many of the species that rely on grasslands to be considered species at risk in Ontario

In 2022, NVCA initiated six projects covering over 54 hectares to help restore grasslands as well as enhance hay and pasture management. Additionally, a total of 16 grassland projects are in-progress since 2019, including restoration, enhancement, bird and soil monitoring for soil-carbon, infiltration and compaction. Thank you to the many farmers, rural landowners, volunteers and the Nature Conservancy of Canada who made this possible.

Native prairie restoration takes considerable site preparation and seeding. As it is a fire adapted system, some site maintenance is needed, be it fire, mowing or grazing to prevent succession. The cost is considerable, especially since most of the native wildflower seeds are rare, hand collected and processed.

Thanks to funding support from Grasslands Ontario, World Wildlife Canada, Environment Canada and the Nature Conservancy of Canada, these projects are more affordable to landowners that want to help restored these endangered ecosystems.

Wetland restoration and enhancement

When there is a lot of rain or snowmelt, wetlands absorb and slow floodwaters, which helps alleviate property damage and can even save lives. In the face of climate change, these wetlands are ever more important as we experience more extreme storm events. For example, the Minesing Wetlands protects the Town of Wasaga Beach from regular flood events.

In Southern Ontario, over 70% of wetlands have been lost, mainly due to agriculture and development activities. Between 2002 and 2016, over 698 hectares have been destroyed in the Nottawasaga Watershed alone.

Protecting existing wetlands is a priority for NVCA. But, it is not enough to reverse these losses. That's why NVCA's Stewardship team is working with landowners to actively create and restore our wetlands. One of these projects is a 0.15 hectare wetland in the Township of Clearview. This wetland will provide wildlife habitat, groundwater recharge, and will benefit a creek downstream of the property. The landowner is also working with NVCA to restore grassland in a large area next to the wetland project.

Thanks to the Nature Conservancy of Canada, Ducks Unlimited Canada and many volunteers, a wetland-enhancement woody-berm project was also completed in the Minesing Wetlands within the Township of Springwater.



Creation of the Stormwater Management Group

Streams and rivers in the Nottawasaga Watershed are connected through other streams, rivers, wetlands and groundwater. Ontario's current policies and guidelines promote the management of stormwater using a watershed-wide approach.

Stormwater is water that flows naturally through a watershed in the form of rain and snow-melt. The soil in farmlands and natural areas can absorb stormwater and slowly release it into rivers and streams, helping to create a constant, permanent flow of water.

As the Nottawasaga Watershed becomes more urbanized, natural areas and farmland are replaced with hard surfaces such as parking lots and pavements.

Water flowing over hard surfaces will flow faster into streams, creating larger fluctuations in water levels compared with naturally vegetated areas. This water may contain contaminants such as oil and pesticides. Unmanaged, this water can flow directly into rivers and streams, impacting water quality. Also, without natural areas to absorb and slowly release water, the permanent flow of water may also decrease. Through proper stormwater management, including Low Impact Development, we can better protect our streams and rivers.

Through the Stormwater Management Technical Working Group, NVCA is working with municipal staff and other agencies to promote stormwater best management practices throughout the Nottawasaga Watershed. Initiated in 2022, the group considered current stormwater management practices, potential climate change impacts in the watershed and explored options to monitor stormwater and enhance processes.

Source water management plan updates

Under the *Safe Drinking Water Act*, Source Protection Plans and Assessment Reports must be updated before an expanded municipal drinking water well can provide water to residents.

Wells in the Township of Springwater and Township of Clearview have been expanded to accommodate an increase of development. NVCA's Watershed Science team assessed the vulnerability of these municipal drinking water systems to contamination and identified potential significant drinking water threats.

NVCA continues to work with member municipalities to ensure that the new or updated municipal drinking water systems are in alignment with the goals of the provincial Clean Water Act.

Improving water quality in the Town of Shelburne

In 2022, NVCA partnered with the Town of Shelburne on the Boyne River Monitoring and Stewardship Project. The objective is to monitor potential impacts of the expansion of the waste water treatment plant. Pre-expansion samples allowed for the establishment of baseline conditions which will be compared to samples taken after the plant's expansion.

In 2022, monitoring activities included benthic macroinvertebrates (aquatic insects) and fish. The stewardship component of the project included working with the local high school to plant 200 trees and shrubs in the town along Walter's Creek. NVCA's Stewardship team also worked with a local landowner to investigate opportunities to improve water quality by managing a dam on the property.



Natural heritage


Natural heritage in a watershed is a combination of various landforms and their ecosystems that sustain plants, fish and wildlife. This includes forests, streams, wetlands, valley lands, regenerating fields and areas that connect these features.

In 2022, NVCA's Watershed Science team completed the Natural Heritage Program Strategy. This is a document that, in part, provides direction to NVCA to develop a natural heritage system within the Nottawasaga Watershed as we face the pressures of development and climate change.

Other action items in the strategy include updating wetland maps, assisting with conservation land inventories, monitoring natural heritage and communicating all of the above to NVCA's member municipalities, partners, funders and watershed residents.



Lands and Operations

A person with a backpack is walking on a wooden boardwalk that winds through a dense, lush green forest. The boardwalk has wooden railings on both sides. The surrounding vegetation is thick with various green plants and trees, creating a vibrant natural setting.

NVCA owns and manages over 6,000 hectares of property throughout the Nottawasaga Watershed. By conserving these lands, we are able to protect important natural features, as well as ecosystems and their functions. Watershed residents and visitors are able to enjoy recreational opportunities provided by these natural areas.

NVCA's properties are not suitable for development and are held for conservation and wildlife habitat, as well as flood control. The majority of these properties were acquired through partnerships and donations to ensure the long-term protection of their natural features.

Creating enjoyable experiences

NVCA collects user fees to help staff and volunteers with ongoing maintenance and restoration of our conservation areas.

Increased visitor use means the maintenance list for trails and other recreational areas is long and constantly being addressed. Many NVCA trails are considered accessible, which require a high standard of care. Accessible boardwalks, bridges, washrooms and interpretive signage are all part of a positive visitor experience. To better accommodate continued high visitor numbers, NVCA will continue to review infrastructure needs and develop plans for implementation.

NVCA's Lands and Operations Enforcement Officers also patrol conservation areas to ensure visitors follow rules and regulations, such as keeping dogs on leashes, not littering, staying on trails and being respectful of other conservation area users. Not only does this create better experiences for other visitors, it ensures wildlife habitats are not disturbed or damaged.

Refreshing our conservation areas

Many NVCA conservation areas have lookouts, bridges and other infrastructure to enhance visitor experiences. These platforms are great for connecting trails, wildlife viewing or simply reflecting.

As these platforms age, it is important to replace them to ensure visitor safety. In 2022, the Lands and Operations team replaced a lookout platform and installed a new accessible pond dipping platform on Papa Bear Pond at the Tiffin Conservation Area. Thank you to the Rotary Club of Barrie for helping to put the finishing touches on the accessible platform and to FedDev for providing funding support.

In an ongoing effort to reduce our carbon footprint and to work towards meeting Canada's climate change targets, NVCA is promoting the use of electric vehicles (EV) by installing EV charging stations. In 2021, NVCA received a grant to install three EV charging stations at the Tiffin Conservation Area.

Two of the chargers will be available for use by NVCA staff and fleet and one charger is available for public use, located in the trailhead parking lot at Tiffin Conservation Area.

Minesing paddling safety

As paddling in the Minesing Wetlands is becoming a popular tourism destination, NVCA and Tourism Simcoe County continued to work together to ensure visitors better understand the skills and risks involved with exploring the wetlands. Minesing Wetlands is a remote wilderness area that is challenging to paddle and even more challenging to rescue from.

Creating revenue through engagement

Tiffin Conservation Area and Historic Fort Willow Conservation Area support annual events that help raise funds for NVCA.

As we recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic, these conservation areas are once again fully open for weddings and events. In 2022, 25 couples got married at NVCA properties. A total of 36 events were hosted at the Tiffin Centre for Conservation.

Not only do these activities generate revenue for maintaining conservation areas, but they support local businesses through service providers and tourism opportunities. Many people who attend events at NVCA's properties come from outside the watershed and may stay in the area. During their time here, they stay at local accommodations, eat at local restaurants and shop in local stores. Travel leads to trade.



Bringing our festivals back

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, NVCA held two annual festivals – the Spring Tonic Maple Syrup Festival and the Festival at Fort Willow.

In 2022, the doors opened again for the festivals and both were a great success!

Partnering with the Rotary Club of Barrie, the Spring Tonic Maple Syrup Festival welcomed 2,500 people. Visitors learned first-hand how maple syrup was made by Indigenous Peoples and pioneers and toured the sugar shack to learn about current methods of production. Admission included a full pancake and sausage breakfast with fresh maple

syrup, as well as activities including historical reenactors, firefighters, paramedics, outdoor skill demonstrations by the cadets and much more!

In the fall, the Historic Fort Willow Conservation Area came to life, as over 1,500 visitors experienced what life was like pre-European contact, during the Fur Trade and the War of 1812. Visitors made candles, learned about the items that were traded between Indigenous Peoples and Europeans, experienced first-hand how sailors work on ships, saw how food was made by settlers and learned about military drills.



Forestry



In the early 1900s, as settlers established communities in the Nottawasaga Watershed, they started to clear land for farming. Topsoil quickly eroded and the sand underneath was exposed, creating inhospitable conditions for farming and residents. Between the 1960s and early 1990s, the Province of Ontario planted millions of trees to restore lost forests. Fast forward to today, NVCA is the only organization in the watershed that offers large scale professional tree planting services.

The forests that NVCA has planted not only stopped the spread of desertification, they also help provide wildlife habitat, shade rivers and streams, produce oxygen, among many other benefits. Well managed forests also contribute to the economy by providing wood for development and wood fiber for products such as paper.

NVCA's Forestry Program started in 1964, one of NVCA's longest running programs. In 2022, only 20% of the program was funded by levy, the rest was covered by grants, landowner fees and donations.

Each spring, the program plants 14-15 different varieties of trees, including white pine, red pine and white spruce. In 2022, NVCA's Forestry Program planted over 115,000 trees on 23 properties.

2 Billion Tree Program announced

In November 2022, the Federal Government announced the 2 Billion Tree Program. With this funding, NVCA will continue to work with landowners to plant forests, take advantage of the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program and access trees for both the Stewardship and Forestry Programs.

Real evidence of climate change

Climate change affects many processes, including where pests live. As temperatures in the Nottawasaga Watershed increase, pests like ticks are becoming more common.

In previous years, Forestry staff rarely encountered ticks during site visits. In 2022, ticks were found at most properties Forestry staff visited, and found as many as ten ticks in a post-visit tick-check!

Helping trees migrate in the face of climate change

Like many living things, trees require specific environments to thrive. As temperatures become warmer, trees that are adapted to the Nottawasaga Watershed may be stressed, and may struggle to survive. As conditions change, the watershed will be more suitable for trees that were adapted for more Southern climates, such as Ontario's Carolinian Zone.

Trees will naturally migrate to more suitable conditions, but this process will take hundreds, even thousands of years. Humans can help this along with strategic tree planting.

But this takes time and research for nurseries to learn how to grow these trees for this new climate. It also takes considerable effort to collect the seed itself.

Several nurseries in Ontario have had success in developing seed treatments for trees such as sycamore. NVCA has incorporated this tree into the 2022 plantings to start the tree migration process.





Environmental Education



Habitats and communities... in communities

NVCA's Education team continued to be a trusted partner with many organizations, including Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB), the Rotary Club of Barrie and Georgian Bay Forever (GBF). In 2022, the Education team worked with over 7,000 students to help them connect with our natural world and become the future stewards of our watershed.

Each year, NVCA develops and delivers Habitats and Communities programming for Grade 4 students in the SCDSB.

In 2022, the Education team visited the students at their schools to investigate habitats and communities in greenspaces in or around their schoolyard. Teachers also gained skills by learning new games and grew an appreciation for the outdoor spaces around their schools. Once comfortable, these areas are great opportunities for many types of lessons.

As students become more familiar with the natural areas around them, NVCA and SCDSB hope that they will return to these spaces with their families to foster a long-term appreciation for nature close to home.







19/11/2020 14:11

Teaching water quality

Thanks to funding from GBF, students in the Town of Collingwood were able to access two water quality programs free of charge.

Through the Microplastics Program, students gained hands-on experience on how microplastics affect our land and waters using microscopes and soil sifters. In the Enviroscope Program, students learned about direct and indirect sources of pollution and how to mitigate them.

While these programs were initially intended for the Town of Collingwood, it has been expanded to several municipalities, including the Township of Clearview, Penetanguishene and Meaford.

NVCA also partnered with SCDSB and GBF to offer professional development in teaching water quality.

Expanding our offerings in French

In 2022, NVCA's Environmental Education Program hired a French educator to expand program offerings. This will provide municipalities with the opportunity to access nature-based environmental education programming in both official languages!

Corporate Services

NVCA's Corporate Services team include Human Resources, Finance, Governance, Communications and Information Management. These teams provide critical support to other departments within NVCA.

Administration and finance

As COVID restrictions lifted in the province, the Administration team welcomed clients back to a fully open John Hix Administration Centre. They continued to provide excellent customer service, assisting customers with questions regarding permit applications, education programs, hunting and fishing permits, conservation areas and much more.

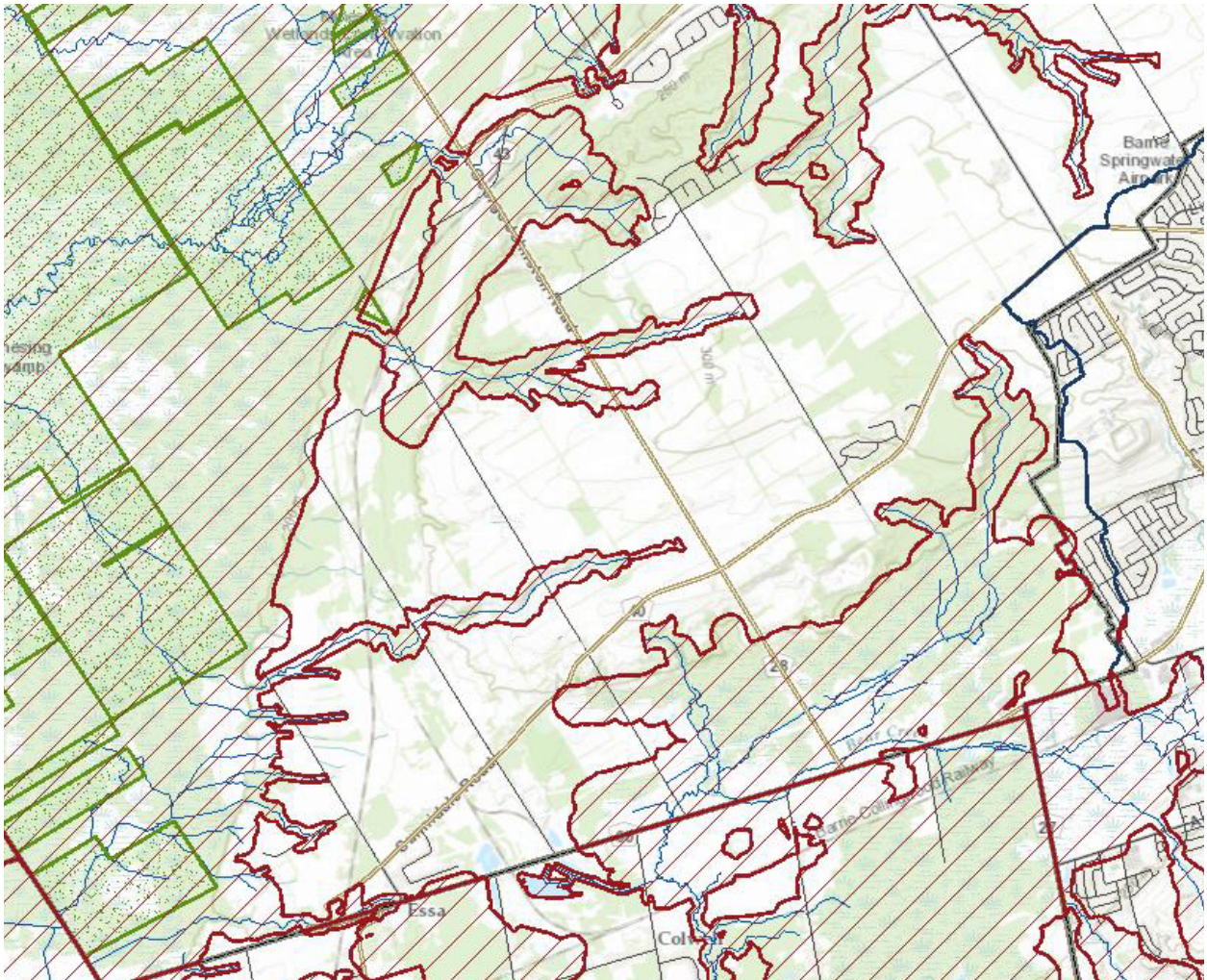
The Board of Directors approved a hybrid meeting model for board meetings. NVCA board meetings will take place either in-person or remotely throughout the year, with the ability to request in-person meetings as required. After the October 2022 municipal election, a new Board of Directors will lead NVCA. Staff have begun to prepare a board orientation package and other items to welcome new board members and provide a solid foundation on the operations, mission and activities of NVCA.

The Finance team continued to support staff and the Board of Directors. Once again, NVCA received a clean audit for the previous fiscal year.

Communications

The Communications team worked with other departments to better service NVCA's watershed residents and visitors. In addition to supporting the Annual General Meeting, producing the 2021 Annual Report and supplements, the Communications team also promoted events such as festivals and volunteer opportunities. To keep watershed residents and visitors informed, the team also maintained NVCA's social media platforms and website.

For the first time, NVCA participated in 'Giving Tuesday' and exceeded our \$10,000 fundraising goal. This funding will be used towards ecological restoration, environmental education and trail maintenance at NVCA's conservation areas.



Information management

Supporting the multiple departments of NVCA, the Information Management team provides mapping and technical solutions such as identifying erosion and flood hazards, sites for restoration projects, and locations for trails. In addition, the Information Management team facilitated the management of NVCA's extensive databases and GIS information.

The Information Management team was also responsible for providing technology resources allowing a seamless and secure work environment (at the office and remotely).



Opportunities for the next generation

Thanks to grants, NVCA welcomed six summer students in the summer of 2022. These students had first-hand experience in working in education, watershed science, ecological restoration, communications and lands and operations.

We wish these students the best of luck on their future career paths.

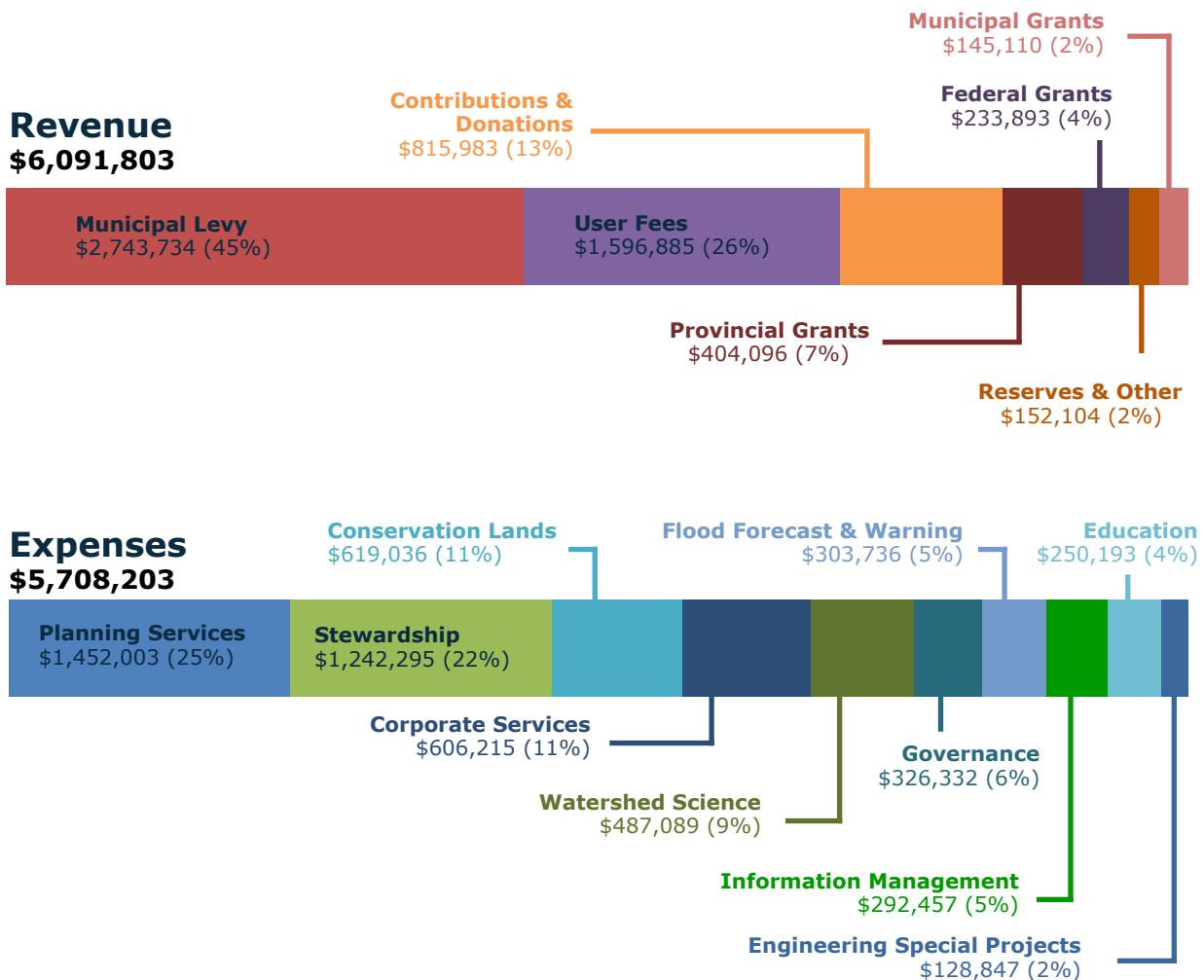
Setting the post-pandemic scene

As Ontario came out of the COVID-19 pandemic, NVCA staff started to return to the office in a hybrid work model. The Administration team lifted COVID restrictions and reopened the John Hix Administration Centre to clients.

NVCA also developed and implemented an Electronic Monitoring Policy and a Right to Disconnect Policy in accordance to provincial law.

Financial Report

NVCA's total 2022 operational budget was \$5,095,130. Revenue came from diverse sources, including member municipalities, provincial and federal governments, local non-governmental partners, and user fees for programs and services and the NVCA ended the year with revenue at 6,091,803. Operational expenses for the year came in at \$5,708,203. In 2022, NVCA purchased \$197,336 in capital assets (from an approved capital budget of \$254,150), funded through the capital asset levy. This financial information is condensed from year-end, unaudited, statements. The auditor's report for the year ending December 31, 2022, is posted on the NVCA website at nvca.on.ca once approved by the Board of Directors.



NVCA Staff as of December, 31 2022

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Doug Hevenor

CORPORATE SERVICES

Sheryl Flannagan, Director
Haleigh Cowen, Finance & HR Administrator
Kerry Jenkins, Administrative Assistant
Christine Knapp, General Accountant
Kimberly Winder, Receptionist/Administrative Assistant

Communications

Maria Leung, Communications Coordinator

Information Management and Technology

Hendrik Amo, Manager
Robert Bettinelli, Information Management and Technology Specialist
Lyle Wood, GIS Analyst
Darcy Persad, GIS/Database Technician

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Chris Hibberd, Director

Engineering & Flood Program

Mark Hartely, Senior Engineer
Megan Durkin, Water Resource Engineer
Marianne Maertens, Water Resource Engineer
Michael Saunders, Engineering Technologist
Sheri Steiginga, Flood Operations Field Specialist
Taryn Arsenault, Flood Operations Field Specialist

Watershed Science

Ryan Post, Manager
David Featherstone, Senior Ecologist
Ian Ockenden, Watershed Monitoring Specialist
Sarah Thompson, Watershed Monitoring Technician
Jennifer France, Watershed Monitoring Technician

Planning and Permits

Ben Krul, Manager
Tyler Mulhall, Regulations Technician
Stacy Van Opstal, Regulations Technician
Meagan Kieferle, Senior Regulations Technician
Emma Perry, Planning Ecologist,

Katelyn Wardlaw, Planner I
Davin Metheral, Planner I
Tyler Boswell, Planner I
Christy Wilcox, Development Review Assistant

CONSERVATION SERVICES

Byron Wesson, Director

Lands & Operations

Kyra Howes, Manager
Clint Collis, Lands & Operations Technician
Mike Bacon, Lands & Operations Technician
Spencer Macdonald, Lands & Operations Technician

Environmental Education

Naomi Saunders, Manager, Environmental Education
Susan Hall, Environmental Education Assistant
Jo-Ann White-McKenna, Environmental Education Associate
Bob Cole, Environmental Education Associate
Stephanie Zsolnay, Environmental Education Associate
Willem Span, Environmental Education Associate
Kylee Hinde, Environmental Education Associate
Amanda McKibbon, Environmental Education Associate
Stephanie Snider, Environmental Education Associate
Emma Maurice, Environmental Education Associate

Forestry

Rick Grillmayer, Manager

Stewardship

Fred Dobbs, Manager
Sarah Campbell, Aquatic Biologist
Shannon Stephens, Healthy Waters Program Coordinator
Laura Wensink, Restoration Biologist
Emily Phillips, Restoration Technical Assistant



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Utopia ON L0M 1T0
705-424-1479 | admin@nvca.on.ca
nvca.on.ca



02-23-BOD Minutes (**Draft**)
Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority
Feb 24, 2023 at 9:00 AM EST

Attendance

Present:

Mayor Scott W. Anderson, Adjala-Tosorontio (Township); Cllr. Christopher Baines, Collingwood (Town); Cllr. Joe Belanger, Wasaga Beach (Town); Mayor Jennifer Coughlin, Springwater (Township); Cllr. Nicole Cox, New Tecumseth (Town); Cllr. Kyle Fegan, Shelburne (Town); Cllr. Gary Harvey (*arrived at 9:07am*), Barrie (City); Cllr. Pieter Kiezebrink, Essa (Township); Chair Gail Little, Amaranth (Township); Cllr. Ralph Manktelow, Mono (Town); Cllr. Richard Schell (*arrived at 11:15am*), Oro-Medonte (Township); Deputy Mayor Paul Van Staveren, Clearview (Township); Cllr. Kevin Eisses, Innisfil (Town)

Absent:

Mayor Janet Horner, Mulmur (Township); Mayor Darren White, Melancthon (Township); Cllr. Joel Loughead, Grey Highlands (Municipality); Cllr. June Porter, The Bule Mountains (Town); Vice-Chair Jonathan Scott, Bradford West Gwillimbury (Town)

NVCA Staff:

Sheryl Flannagan, Director, Corporate Services; Doug Hevenor (*technical difficulties*), Chief Administrative Officer; Chris Hibberd, Director, Watershed Management Services; Byron Wesson, Director, Conservation Services; Sarah Thompson, Acting Source Water Coordinator; Tyler Mulhall, Regulations Technician; Meagan Kieferle, Senior Regulations Officer; Ben Krul, Manager, Development Planning & Permits; Ian Ockenden, Acting Watershed Science Supervisor; Kerry Jenkins, Administrative Assistant/Recorder

1. Events

Tiffin Nature Program - Full Day

Date: Every Thursday

Location: Tiffin Centre for Conservation

Tiffin Nature Program (Session 4: Feb-Mar) - Half Day

Date: Every Tuesday

Location: Tiffin Centre for Conservation

March Break Camp Tiffin

Date: March 13 – 17, 2023

Location: Tiffin Conservation Area, 8195 8th Line, Utopia ON L0M 1T0

Spring Tonic Maple Syrup Festival

Date: April 1-2, 9

Location: Tiffin Conservation Area, 8195 8th Line, Utopia ON L0M 1T0

2. Call to Order

Chair Little called the meeting to order at 9:01am

3. Land Acknowledgement

The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Board acknowledges that we are situated on the traditional land of the Anishinaabeg. The Anishinaabeg include the Odawa, Saulteaux, Anishinaabeg, Mississauga and Algonquin who spoke several languages including Anishinaabemowin and Potawatomi. We are dedicated to honouring Indigenous history and culture and committed to moving forward in the spirit of reconciliation and respect with all First Nation, Métis and Inuit people.

4. Declaration of Pecuniary and Conflict of Interest

5. Motion to Adopt the Agenda

Recommendation:

RES: 12-23

Moved by: Mayor Scott W. Anderson

Seconded by: Cllr. Kyle Fegan

RESOLVED THAT: the agenda for the Board of Directors meeting #02-23-BOD dated February 24, 2023 be approved.

Carried;

6. Announcements

There were no announcements at this time.

7. Presentations

7.1. OnBoard

Sheryl Flannagan, Director, Corporate Services will give a tutorial to the newly elected Board Members on how to use OnBoard.

Recommendation:

RES: 13-23

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Paul Van Staveren

Seconded by: Cllr. Christopher Baines

RESOLVED THAT: the Board of Directors receive the presentation on the online software, OnBoard as presented.

Carried;

7.2. Board Orientation

Senior Management will conduct an orientation presentation to the Board of Directors.

Recommendation:

RES: 14-23

Moved by: Cllr. Pieter Kiezebrink

Seconded by: Cllr. Ralph Manktelow

RESOLVED THAT: the Board of Directors receive the orientation presentation as presented.

Carried;

7.3. 2023 Draft Budget

Sheryl Flannagan, Director, Corporate Services to conduct a presentation on NVCA's 2023 Draft Budget.

Recommendation:

RES: 15-23

Moved by: Cllr. Ralph Manktelow

Seconded by Cllr. Kyle Fegan

RESOLVED THAT: the Board of Directors receive the presentation on the draft 2023 budget as presented.

Carried;

8. Deputations

There were no deputations at this time.

9. Hearings

There were no hearings at this time.

10. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

Board Members are requested to identify items from the Consent List that they wish to have considered for separate discussion.

11. Adoption of Consent List and Identification of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

Recommendation:

RES: 16-23

Moved by: Cllr. Kevin Eisses

Seconded by: Cllr. Joe Belanger

RESOLVED THAT: agenda item number(s), 12.2.1 and 12.2.5 were identified as requiring separate discussion, be referred for discussion under Agenda Item #9; and

FURTHER THAT: all Consent List Agenda Items not referred for separate discussion be adopted as submitted to the board and staff be authorized to take all necessary action required to give effect to same; and

FURTHER THAT: any items in the Consent List not referred for separate discussion, and for which conflict has been declared, are deemed not to have been voted on or discussed by the individual making the declaration.

Carried;

12. Consent List

12.1. Adoption of Minutes

Recommendation:

Approved by Consent

RESOLVED THAT: the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting 11-22-BOD and 01-23-BOD dated on January 27, 2023 be approved.

12.2. Staff Reports

12.2.1. Staff Report No. 01-02-23-BOD from Sarah Thompson, Watershed Science Assistant

Recommendation:

RES: 17-23

Moved by: Mayor Jennifer Coughlin

Seconded by: Cllr. Nicole Cox

RESOLVED THAT: the Board of Directors receive Staff Report No. 01-02-23-BOD regarding the 2022-2025 NVCA Climate Change Action Plan summary of progress in 2022 and 2023 goals for information.

Carried;

12.2.2. Staff Report No. 02-02-23-BOD from Chris Hibberd, Director, Watershed Management Services

Recommendation:

Approved by Consent

WHEREAS: the following municipalities have transferred responsibility for enforcement of Part IV policies in the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Plan to the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority;

AND WHEREAS: the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority must appoint qualified Risk Management Official and Risk Management Inspectors as per Section 48(2) of the *Clean Water Act, 2006*;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Sarah Thompson is hereby appointed as a Risk Management Official and Risk Management Inspector and Taryn Arsenault appointed as an Alternate Risk Management Official and Inspector to carry out the enforcement of Part IV policies in the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Plan in the vulnerable areas where Part IV policies apply in following municipalities:

1. Clearview Township
2. Essa Township
3. Town of New Tecumseth
4. Town of Innisfil
5. Town of Shelburne
6. Adjala-Tosorontio Township

7. Mulmur Township
8. Melancthon Township
9. Town of Mono

12.2.3. Staff Report No. 03-02-23-BOD from Doug Hevenor, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

Recommendation:

Approved by Consent

RESOLVED THAT: The NVCA Board of Directors receive and approve the use of the Administrative MOU by the CAO and staff for completing the apportioned cost agreement negotiations between municipal partners and the NVCA.

12.2.4. Staff Report No. 04-02-23-BOD from Doug Hevenor, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

Recommendation:

Approved by Consent

RESOLVED THAT: the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) supports: protecting source water, planning for climate-change impacts and shoreline resilience, and building up a sustainable economy in our watershed;

WHEREAS: a Freshwater Action Plan and the Great Lakes Protection Initiative it supported were first announced in the 2017 Canadian federal budget with a \$44.84 million investment over five years; and

WHEREAS: the Freshwater Action Plan addressed priorities in the Great Lakes such as preventing toxic and nuisance algae, enhancing the resilience of coastal wetlands in the Great Lakes, restoring Great Lakes areas of concern and supporting Canada's commitments under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, among other priorities; and

WHEREAS: a commitment was made by the Liberal Party of Canada in the 2021 federal election and in subsequent Ministers' mandate letters to strengthen the Freshwater Action Plan with an investment of \$1 billion over ten years to restore major bodies of water across the country; and

WHEREAS: the federal government only committed \$19.6 million in funding in the 2022 Budget for the Freshwater Action Plan; and

WHEREAS: nearly half of Canada's population lives in the Great Lakes and St Lawrence River Basin, a region that includes our watershed, which will continue to see accelerated growth, resulting in greater land and resource use pressures that will further contribute to water availability and quality issues; and

WHEREAS: several municipalities in our region have previously advocated for the Freshwater Action Fund to be

increased, with funding to support bodies of water in our region, such as Lake Simcoe and the Great Lakes; and
WHEREAS: Freshwater Action Plan funding should largely be directed to conservation authorities, community groups, local governments and First Nations to ensure that investments made will have the biggest local impact and empower action at the local level; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED: that the NVCA joins appeals by local municipalities and the Great Lakes/St Lawrence Cities Initiative to call on the federal government to honour its commitment of \$1 billion in funding over five years for a strengthened Freshwater Action Plan in Budget 2023; and

FURTHER THAT: the NVCA calls on the federal government to make conservation authorities and municipalities eligible for future funding in programs announced under the strengthened Freshwater Action Plan; and

FURTHER THAT: the NVCA calls on the federal government to allocate a portion of such funding to local bodies of water in the Nottawasaga Valley watershed; and

FURTHER THAT: the NVCA directs its chair and vice-chair to submit this resolution with an accompanying letter to the federal Minister of Finance; the Minister of Environment and Climate Change; the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change (responsible for the Canada Water Agency); to the Great Lakes/St Lawrence Cities Initiative; and to local Members of Parliament, municipal councils, and the local media.

12.2.5. Staff Report No. 05-02-23-BOD from Tyler Mulhall, Regulations Technician & Meagan Kieferle, Senior Regulations Officer

Recommendation:

RES: 18-23

Moved by: Cllr. Ralph Manktelow

Seconded by: Cllr. Gary Harvey

RESOLVED THAT: the NVCA Board of Directors receive Staff Report No. 05-02-23-BOD that summarizes the permits and approvals issued by staff for the period of June 13, 2022 to December 31, 2022.

Carried;

12.2.6. Staff Report No. 06-02-23-BOD from Maria Leung, Senior Communications Specialist

Recommendation:

Approved by Consent

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 06-02-23-BOD regarding NVCA's Customer Satisfaction Report 2022 be received by Board of Directors.

12.2.7. Staff Report No. 07-02-23-BOD from Maria Leung, Senior Communications Specialist

Recommendation:

Approved by Consent

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 07-02-23-BOD regarding NVCA Communications - November 12, 2022 - February 10, 2023, be received.

13. Other Business

Director, Corporate Services, Sheryl Flannagan informed the Board members that they can pull items out of the consent agenda prior to the meeting, if they wish to do so.

Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Doug Hevenor informed the Board that the Minister of the MNRNF has funded 2.7 million for tree planting.

14. Adjourn

Recommendation:

RES: 19-23

Moved by: Cllr. Joe Belanger

Seconded by: Cllr. Kyle Fegan

RESOLVED THAT: this meeting adjourn at 11:58am to meet again on March 24, 2023 or at the call of the Chair.

Carried;



Staff Report: 08-03-23-BOD
Date: 24/03/2023
To: Chair and Members of the Board of Directors
From: Sheryl Flannagan
Director, Corporate Services

SUBJECT: 2023 NVCA Budget

Recommendation

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 08-03-23-BOD regarding the NVCA's 2023 Budget be received; and

FURTHER THAT: the 2022 budget, operational and capital, as presented in the 2023 Draft Budget booklet be approved; and

FURTHER THAT: each watershed member municipality be formally advised of their respective share of the levies, operational and capital.

Purpose of the Staff Report

The purpose of this Staff Report is to gain the Board's approval regarding the NVCA's draft 2023 budget.

Background

The Board of Directors approved a \$150,000 levy increase guideline for the 2023 draft budget. Staff were pleased to present a draft budget with an increase of \$137,048.95 to general levy, well below the guideline.

The Board subsequently approved the 2023 draft budget for circulation for the 30 day comment period in September 2022. Due to the election, circulation was extended to February 2023 and voting on the 2023 budget was deferred from December 2022 to March 2023, this meeting.

The levy was apportioned based on the current value assessment (CVA) values received from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Parks (MECP), which are based on the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) determined values (See Attachment 1 – 2023 Draft Budget, Page 6).

Issues/Analysis

The draft budget was then sent to all our member municipalities for review and an opportunity to comment. During this time, NVCA staff provided 2023 budget presentations to three municipal councils: Springwater Township, Town of Innisfil, and Township of Oro-Medonte.

Additionally, we have received correspondence from three watershed municipalities, Town of Innisfil, City of Barrie, and Town of Collingwood having approved our budget.

The following procedures will occur when considering the 2023 Draft Budget as required by the MECP:

- a) Board Members will have an opportunity to deliberate and ask questions.
- b) A roll call of the members present, and vote will be completed by the Director, Corporate Services.
- c) The budget vote will be recorded, and each Member will be requested to vote yea or nay to the attached budget, done in alphabetical order of Municipality. Further, the vote will be weighted based upon the current value assessment (CVA) as broken down in the 2023 Draft Budget.

The breakdown is as follows:

Name	Municipality/Township	Percentage
Mayor Scott Anderson	Township of Adjala-Tosorontio	4.0356%
Chair/Deputy Mayor Gail Little	Township of Amaranth	0.2187%
Councillor Gary Harvey	City of Barrie	14.9139%
Councillor June Porter	Town of the Blue Mountains	1.4358%
Vice-Chair/Councillor Jonathan Scott	Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury	4.2801%
Deputy Mayor Paul Van Staveren	Clearview Township	4.9356%
Councillor Christopher Baines	Town of Collingwood	10.2492%
Councillor Pieter Kiezebrink	Township of Essa	6.9114%
Councillor Joel Loughhead	Municipality of Grey Highlands	0.3366%
Councillor Kevin Eisses	Town of Innisfil	7.2355%
Mayor Darren White	Township of Melancthon	0.4717%
Councillor Ralph Manktelow	Town of Mono	3.6958%
Mayor Janet Horner	Mulmur Township	1.6095%
Councillor Nicole Cox	Town of New Tecumseth	13.5915%
Councillor Richard Schell	Township of Oro-Medonte	7.3707%

Name	Municipality/Township	Percentage
Councillor Kyle Fegan	Town of Shelburne	2.1081%
Mayor Jennifer Coughlin	Township of Springwater	7.5609%
Councillor Joe Belanger	Town of Wasaga Beach	9.0394%

Relevance to Authority Policy/Mandate

The **Conservation Authorities Act** (CAA) addresses NVCA's ability to raise funds. Since 2018, the NVCA has undertaken separating its annual operating (general levy) and capital (asset levy) programs.

Section 24, 25, 26, and 27 of the CAA, deals with apportionment of costs for administration, maintenance, and capital expenditures, which permits the NVCA to work with municipalities to raise funds for both operating and capital (and benefitting) expenses through different budget requests. Special apportionment arrangements for capital (benefitting) projects, surveys and studies will be based on the municipal CVA apportionment. If special projects are carried out over several municipalities, such as new flood plain mapping, apportionment can be assessed to each municipality on a CVA basis.

Impact on Authority Finances

The 2023 Draft Budget totals \$5,687,989 million in revenue as compared to the 2022 approved budget of \$5,095,130.

Climate Change Implications

This staff report does not result in an increase in green house gases, temperature or precipitation exposure.

Reviewed by:
Original Signed by
Sheryl Flannagan
Director, Corporate Services

Approved for submission by:
Original Signed by
Doug Hevenor
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments:

1. 2023 Draft Budget Booklet
2. 2023 Draft Budget by Department



NOTTAWASAGA VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY 2023 DRAFT BUDGET



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OUR VISION

A sustainable watershed that is resilient to the effects of climate change, urban growth and other stressors and provides for safe, healthy and prosperous people and communities.

OUR MISSION

Working together to deliver innovative, integrated watershed management that is responsive to the environmental, economic and social sustainability of the Nottawasaga Valley watershed.

WHAT WE VALUE

An abundance of clean water, clean air and fertile soils that provide for healthy people and ecosystems.

Natural heritage systems and the ecosystem services they provide, particularly as they support resilience to the effects of a changing climate.

Distinctive landforms and waterways including the Georgian Bay coastline, Niagara Escarpment, Minesing Wetlands and others that give our watershed a unique sense of place.

Quality recreational opportunities that our hills, forests, meadows, wetlands, waterways and coastline provide for residents and tourists alike.

A wealth of resources within the capacity of our watershed to provide for thriving communities, successful economies and sustainable agriculture, now and in the future.

A LOOK FORWARD TO 2023

In 2022, NVCA continued work with our municipal and community partners to protect, conserve, and restore natural resources and develop resilient communities in the Nottawasaga Watershed.

One priority was to start the transition to the implement the revised Conservation Authorities Act (CA Act) by developing a transition plan and Inventory of Programs and Services.

In 2023, completing the transition to the revised CA Act will remain a priority as staff works with municipal partners to develop new Memorandums of Understanding and Service Level Agreements, as well as the developing the new budget process.

However, our work to preserve of a healthy watershed will not stop. We will continue to deliver innovative, watershed-wide services through education, the application of science, community engagement, service excellence and collaboration with our partners.

OUR WATERSHED

The Nottawasaga Valley Watershed is approximately 3,700 km², with jurisdiction in 18 municipalities in in the counties of Simcoe, Dufferin and Grey. The watershed is the source of watercourses that flow into Georgian Bay at Wasaga Beach, Collingwood and Severn Sound.

NVCA's Board of Directors is comprised of one representative appointed from each of our member municipalities.

Board members have a very important role and responsibility to represent the interests of their municipalities, consider the interests and needs of the conservation authority, and establish an effective reporting relationship with their municipal council and staff.

Budget Process

In August 2022, board members approved a staff report on the budget pressures projected for 2023 and directed staff to prepare a 2023 budget for consideration based on a \$150,000 increase to general levy.

Staff have developed a draft budget based on a \$137,048.95 increase. The draft budget is reviewed at the September 23, 2022 Board of Directors meeting and subsequently circulated to NVCA watershed municipalities for comments.

As this is an election year, the draft budget will be circulated to member municipalities after the September meeting for a 5-month review and consultation process. The Board of Directors will vote on the budget at the March 2023 Board Meeting.

Budget Vote

The Board of Directors will vote on the budget and levy using a weighted vote. The weighting formula is based on the Current Value Assessment (CVA) levy apportionment found on the next page.



2023 Draft Budget

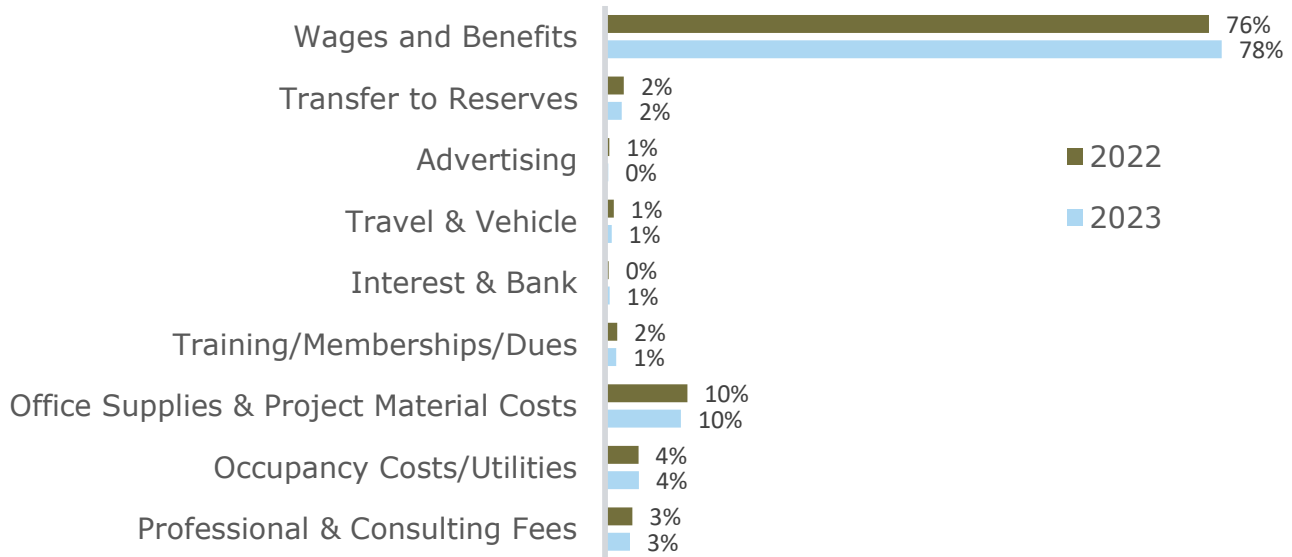
The 2023 operational budget is organized into business units and departments and is intended to reflect all associated costs. Operating programs have been maintained at the previous years' service levels.

A \$137,048.95 increase in municipal levy, is needed to support the operating expenditures. The operating levy is shared by NVCA member municipalities based on the CVA apportionment percentages provided by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks.

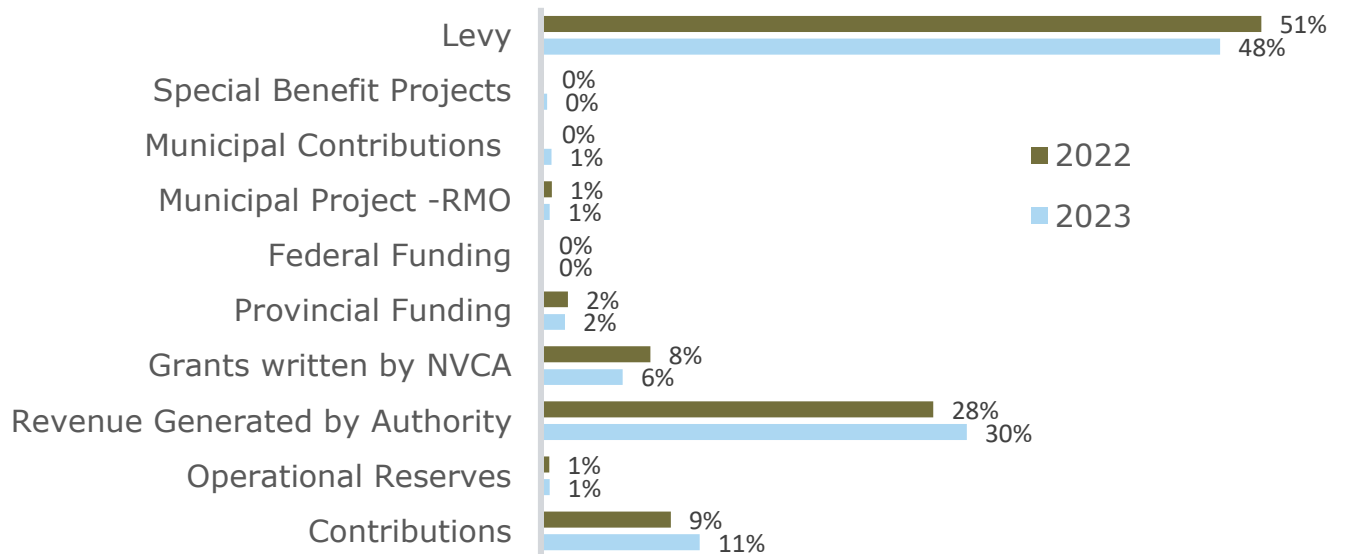
Summary of Municipal Levy Contribution

Municipality	2022 CVA Apportionment Percentage	2023 CVA Apportionment Percentage	2022 Operating Levy	2023 Draft Operating Levy	\$ Increase
			2,654,593.28	\$2,791,642.23	\$137,048.95
Township of Adjala-Tosorontio	4.06%	4.04%	\$107,856.13	\$112,659.51	\$4,803.39
Township of Amaranth	0.22%	0.22%	\$5,787.01	\$6,105.32	\$318.31
City of Barrie	15.06%	14.91%	\$399,869.35	\$416,342.73	\$16,473.38
Town of The Blue Mountains	1.41%	1.44%	\$37,445.69	\$40,082.40	\$2,636.71
Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury	4.27%	4.28%	\$113,295.39	\$119,485.08	\$6,189.69
Clearview Township	4.88%	4.94%	\$129,557.43	\$137,784.29	\$8,226.87
Town of Collingwood	10.20%	10.25%	\$270,695.25	\$286,121.00	\$15,425.75
Township of Essa	6.93%	6.91%	\$184,082.77	\$192,941.56	\$8,858.79
Municipality of Grey Highlands	0.34%	0.34%	\$8,991.11	\$9,396.67	\$405.56
Town of Innisfil	7.29%	7.24%	\$193,514.54	\$201,989.27	\$8,474.73
Township of Melancthon	0.47%	0.47%	\$12,569.50	\$13,168.18	\$598.68
Town of Mono	3.71%	3.70%	\$98,408.43	\$103,173.51	\$4,765.09
Mulmur Township	1.62%	1.61%	\$43,062.81	\$44,931.48	\$1,868.67
Town of New Tecumseth	13.60%	13.59%	\$360,921.16	\$379,426.05	\$18,504.89
Township of Oro-Medonte	7.39%	7.37%	\$196,118.70	\$205,763.57	\$9,644.88
Town of Shelburne	2.02%	2.11%	\$53,617.48	\$58,850.61	\$5,233.13
Township of Springwater	7.49%	7.56%	\$198,749.40	\$211,073.28	\$12,323.88
Town of Wasaga Beach	9.04%	9.04%	\$240,049.56	\$252,347.71	\$12,298.15

Expenses



Revenues



Asset Management

The capital asset levy, which funds the asset management plan (AMP), is shared by the municipal partners based on their apportionment percentage.

The AMP is based on the annual approval of the asset management plan by the Board of Directors. The AMP for 2022 was approved by the Board of Directors at the August 2023 Board meeting.

Below are the contributions for 2023 based on the approved Asset Management Plan:

Capital Asset Levy

Municipality	2023 CVA Apportionment %	2022 Capital Levy Contribution	2023 Capital Levy
Township of Adjala-Tosorontio	4.04%	\$5,605.56	\$4,935.29
Township of Amaranth	0.22%	\$300.76	\$267.46
City of Barrie	14.91%	\$20,782.26	\$18,238.79
Town of The Blue Mountains	1.44%	\$1,946.18	\$1,755.90
Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury	4.28%	\$5,888.28	\$5,234.30
Clearview Township	4.94%	\$6,733.48	\$6,035.94
Town of Collingwood	10.25%	\$14,068.68	\$12,534.15
Township of Essa	6.91%	\$9,567.28	\$8,452.22
Municipality of Grey Highlands	0.34%	\$467.34	\$411.64
Town of Innisfil	7.24%	\$10,057.54	\$8,848.58
Melancthon Township	0.47%	\$653.30	\$576.86
Town of Mono	3.70%	\$5,114.55	\$4,519.74
Mulmur Township	1.61%	\$2,238.15	\$1,968.32
Town of New Tecumseth	13.59%	\$18,758.01	\$16,621.58
Township of Oro-Medonte	7.37%	\$10,192.81	\$9,013.92
Town of Shelburne	2.11%	\$2,786.66	\$2,578.08
Township of Springwater	7.56%	\$10,329.52	\$9,246.52
Town of Wasaga Beach	9.04%	\$12,476.04	\$11,054.63

Reserves

These amounts will be put into reserves to pay for the repair maintenance and replacement of the assets as identified in the AMP.

Some of the 2023 expenditures as per the AMP:

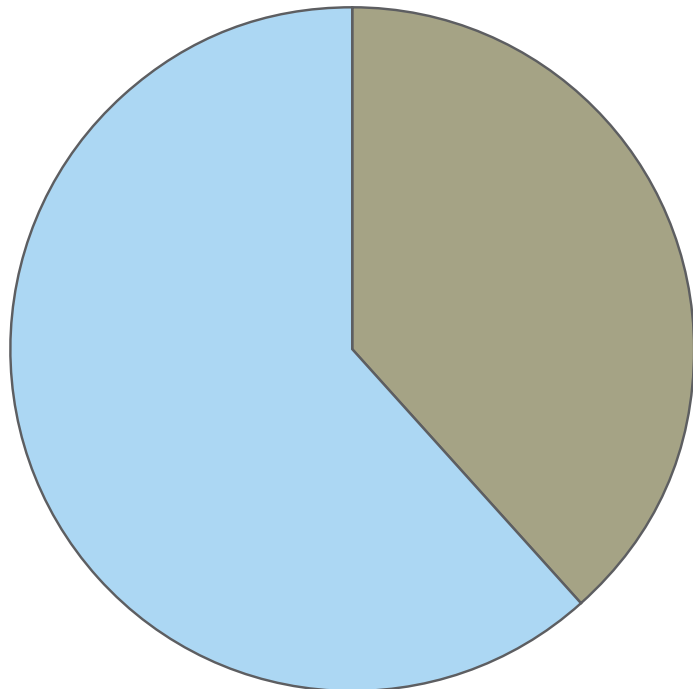
1. Dike safety review for Pretty River, dam safety reviews at Tiffin Conservation Area and maintenance of the New Lowell Dam
2. Parts replacement on lands, flood and monitoring equipment to extend life as well as replacement of some end-of-life equipment including a tractor
3. Computers and server upgrades and network hardware

Funding for Asset Management Plan

2023 Total Cost:
\$273,300

Capital Reserves:
\$151,006.10
55%

Asset Levy:
\$122,293.90
45%



**Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority
Proposed 2023 Budget**

Consolidated

	BUDGET 2022	BUDGET 2023	\$ CHANGE
REVENUE:			
Municipal Levy	2,654,593.30	2,791,642.23	137,048.93
Special Benefit Projects	11,000.00	25,000.00	14,000.00
Oro-Medonte MOU	(39,825.49)	(41,880.49)	(2,055.00)
Municipal Contributions	10,000.00	42,800.00	32,800.00
Municipal Project - RMO	39,000.00	36,000.00	(3,000.00)
Total Municipal Revenue	2,674,767.81	2,853,561.74	178,793.93
MNR Transfer Payment-Flood	97,307.00	97,307.00	-
Other Provincial Sources	272,500.00	227,500.00	(45,000.00)
Federal Sources	125,100.00	104,000.00	(21,100.00)
Total Government Grants	494,907.00	428,807.00	(66,100.00)
Contributions	470,940.00	643,500.00	172,560.00
User Fees			
Reforestation	71,000.00	69,000.00	(2,000.00)
Healthy Waters	20,000.00	20,000.00	-
Conservation Lands	29,600.00	34,300.00	4,700.00
Planning	978,000.00	1,115,500.00	137,500.00
Environmental Monitoring	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Environmental Education	148,950.00	214,000.00	65,050.00
Tiffin Operations	119,500.00	176,600.00	57,100.00
Conservation Land Leases	31,440.00	32,140.00	700.00
GIS & Technical Support	-	12,500.00	12,500.00
Investment Income	25,000.00	50,000.00	25,000.00
Total Contributions and User Fees	1,895,430.00	2,368,540.00	473,110.00
Operational Reserves	30,025.49	37,080.49	7,055.00
TOTAL REVENUE	5,095,130.30	5,687,989.23	592,858.93

EXPENSES:

Wages and Interprogram Charges	3,853,600.29	4,412,596.41	558,996.12
	3,853,600.29	4,412,596.41	558,996.12
Other Expenses			
Staff Cost	10,600.00	10,600.00	-
Memberships/Professional Dues	47,350.00	49,350.00	2,000.00
Educations and Training	29,500.00	31,500.00	2,000.00
Materials & Supplies - General	359,000.00	364,332.82	5,332.82
Materials & Supplies - Cost of Trees	124,000.00	114,000.00	(10,000.00)
Vehicles & Large Equipment Costs	42,450.00	40,950.00	(1,500.00)
Office Expenses	16,000.00	16,000.00	-
Equipment Costs	9,000.00	9,000.00	-
Transportation Costs	13,000.00	7,000.00	(6,000.00)
Legal	22,000.00	22,000.00	-
Consultants	132,500.00	135,500.00	3,000.00
Insurance	117,350.00	154,700.00	37,350.00
Taxes	21,460.00	18,860.00	(2,600.00)

**Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority
Proposed 2023 Budget**

Consolidated

	BUDGET 2022	BUDGET 2023	\$ CHANGE
Heat and Hydro	32,000.00	30,000.00	(2,000.00)
Telephones and Internet Access	23,000.00	23,000.00	-
Audit Fees	20,000.00	20,000.00	-
Interest and Bank Charges	22,500.00	33,500.00	11,000.00
Maintenance Expense	32,300.00	33,000.00	700.00
Uniform Expense	6,500.00	6,500.00	-
Leases	14,000.00	12,000.00	(2,000.00)
Advertisement and Communications	26,520.00	23,100.00	(3,420.00)
Bad Debt Expense	500.00	500.00	-
Transfer to Reserves	120,000.00	120,000.00	-
	1,241,530.00	1,275,392.82	33,862.82
TOTAL EXPENSES	5,095,130.29	5,687,989.23	592,858.94
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	(0.00)	-	0.00



Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority

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Member of



Conservation
ONTARIO



NOTTAWASAGA VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

BUDGET BY DEPARTMENT



Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Proposed 2023 Budget

Division

110 Reforestation

	BUDGET 2022	BUDGET 2023	\$ CHANGE
REVENUE:			
Municipal Levy Non Match	75,923.65	79,469.43	3,545.78
Municipal Grants	13,000.00	13,000.00	-
Contributions	240,640.00	255,000.00	14,360.00
Federal Sources	17,000.00	5,000.00	(12,000.00)
User Fees	71,000.00	69,000.00	(2,000.00)
TOTAL REVENUE	417,563.65	421,469.43	3,905.78
EXPENSES:			
Wages and Interprogram Charges	128,084.23	135,699.98	7,615.75
	128,084.23	135,699.98	7,615.75
Other Interprogram Charges			
Cost Recovery	42,329.42	39,119.45	(3,209.97)
	42,329.42	39,119.45	(3,209.97)
Other Expenses			
Staff Cost	300.00	300.00	-
Memberships/Professional Dues	750.00	750.00	-
Materials & Supplies - General	6,500.00	6,000.00	(500.00)
Materials & Supplies - Cost of Trees	124,000.00	114,000.00	(10,000.00)
Equipment Costs	500.00	500.00	-
Consultants	115,000.00	125,000.00	10,000.00
Uniform Expense	100.00	100.00	-
	247,150.00	246,650.00	(500.00)
TOTAL EXPENSES	417,563.65	421,469.43	(3,905.78)
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	-	-	-

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Proposed 2023 Budget

Division

120 Healthy Waters

	BUDGET 2022	BUDGET 2023	\$ CHANGE
REVENUE:			
Municipal Levy Non Match	178,132.44	180,085.86	1,953.42
Provincial Grants	80,000.00	30,000.00	(50,000.00)
Municipal Grants	6,000.00	20,000.00	14,000.00
Contributions	212,300.00	350,000.00	137,700.00
Federal Sources	106,000.00	96,000.00	(10,000.00)
User Fees	20,000.00	20,000.00	-
Use of Reserves	1,000.00	-	(1,000.00)
TOTAL REVENUE	603,432.44	696,085.86	92,653.42
EXPENSES:			
Wages and Interprogram Charges	291,560.60	381,340.09	89,779.49
	291,560.60	381,340.09	89,779.49
Other Interprogram Charges			
Cost Recovery	64,321.84	68,195.77	3,873.93
	64,321.84	68,195.77	3,873.93
Other Expenses			
Staff Cost	800.00	800.00	-
Materials & Supplies - General	244,000.00	244,000.00	-
Equipment Costs	1,000.00	-	(1,000.00)
Uniform Expense	150.00	150.00	-
Advertisement and Communications	1,600.00	1,600.00	-
	247,550.00	246,550.00	(1,000.00)
TOTAL EXPENSES	603,432.44	696,085.86	(92,653.42)
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	-	(0.00)	0.00

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Proposed 2023 Budget

Division

150 Conservation Lands

	BUDGET 2022	BUDGET 2023	\$ CHANGE
REVENUE:			
Municipal Levy Non Match	142,358.99	151,124.84	8,765.85
Provincial Grants	2,500.00	2,500.00	-
Contributions	5,000.00	5,000.00	-
User Fees	61,040.00	66,440.00	5,400.00
Use of Reserves	(9,800.00)	(9,800.00)	-
TOTAL REVENUE	201,098.99	215,264.84	14,165.85
EXPENSES:			
Wages and Interprogram Charges	104,701.94	117,938.53	13,236.59
	104,701.94	117,938.53	13,236.59
Other Interprogram Charges			
Cost Recovery	51,917.05	50,666.31	(1,250.74)
	51,917.05	50,666.31	(1,250.74)
Other Expenses			
Staff Cost	400.00	400.00	-
Materials & Supplies - General	10,000.00	10,000.00	-
Legal	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Insurance	8,300.00	12,000.00	3,700.00
Taxes	18,660.00	16,060.00	(2,600.00)
Hydo	200.00	200.00	-
Interest and Bank Charges	2,500.00	3,500.00	1,000.00
Maintenance Expenses	500.00	1,500.00	1,000.00
Advertisement and Communications	2,920.00	2,000.00	(920.00)
	44,480.00	46,660.00	2,180.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	201,098.99	215,264.84	(14,165.85)
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	-	-	-

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Proposed 2023 Budget

Division

310 Planning

	BUDGET 2022	BUDGET 2023	\$ CHANGE
REVENUE:			
Municipal Levy Non Match	440,356.41	462,611.44	22,255.03
User Fees	978,000.00	1,115,500.00	137,500.00
TOTAL REVENUE	1,418,356.41	1,578,111.44	159,755.03
EXPENSES:			
Wages and Interprogram Charges	1,144,599.51	1,299,749.81	155,150.30
	1,144,599.51	1,299,749.81	155,150.30
Other Interprogram Charges			
Cost Recovery	212,356.90	191,761.63	(20,595.27)
	212,356.90	191,761.63	(20,595.27)
Other Expenses			
Staff Cost	500.00	500.00	-
Memberships/Professional Dues	4,600.00	4,600.00	-
Materials & Supplies - General	500.00	500.00	-
Legal	20,000.00	20,000.00	-
Consultants	2,500.00	2,500.00	-
Insurance	32,300.00	57,500.00	25,200.00
Office Expenses	500.00	500.00	-
Bad Dept Expense	500.00	500.00	-
	61,400.00	86,600.00	25,200.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,418,356.41	1,578,111.44	(159,755.03)
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	-	-	-

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Proposed 2023 Budget

Division

400 Engineering - Special Projects

	BUDGET 2022	BUDGET 2023	\$ CHANGE
REVENUE:			
Municipal Grants	-	27,800.00	27,800.00
TOTAL REVENUE	-	27,800.00	27,800.00
EXPENSES:			
Wages and Interprogram Charges	-	21,967.18	21,967.18
	-	21,967.18	21,967.18
Other Interprogram Charges			
	-	-	-
Other Expenses			
Materials & Supplies - General	-	5,832.82	5,832.82
	-	5,832.82	5,832.82
TOTAL EXPENSES	-	27,800.00	(27,800.00)
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	-	-	-

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Proposed 2023 Budget

Division

410 GIS/Tech Support

	BUDGET 2022	BUDGET 2023	\$ CHANGE
REVENUE:			
Municipal Levy Non Match	275,410.20	364,850.32	89,440.12
User Fees	-	12,500.00	12,500.00
Use of Reserves	28,500.00	31,800.00	3,300.00
TOTAL REVENUE	303,910.20	409,150.32	105,240.12
EXPENSES:			
Wages and Interprogram Charges	275,410.20	364,850.32	89,440.12
	275,410.20	364,850.32	89,440.12
Other Interprogram Charges			
Cost Recovery	(29,600.00)	(10,600.00)	19,000.00
	(29,600.00)	(10,600.00)	19,000.00
Other Expenses			
Staff Cost	100.00	100.00	-
Materials & Supplies - General	21,500.00	27,000.00	5,500.00
Consultants	8,000.00	1,000.00	(7,000.00)
Capital Asset Purchases	28,500.00	26,800.00	1,700.00
	58,100.00	54,900.00	200.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	303,910.20	409,150.32	(105,240.12)
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	-	-	-

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Proposed 2023 Budget

Division

420 Watershed Science

	BUDGET 2022	BUDGET 2023	\$ CHANGE
REVENUE:			
Municipal Levy Non Match	233,466.55	242,613.13	9,146.58
Provincial Grants	190,000.00	195,000.00	5,000.00
Municipal Grants	39,000.00	41,000.00	2,000.00
User Fees	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Use of Reserves	38,625.00	99,500.00	60,875.00
TOTAL REVENUE	502,091.55	579,113.13	77,021.58
EXPENSES:			
Wages and Interprogram Charges	355,834.33	386,798.51	30,964.18
	355,834.33	386,798.51	30,964.18
Other Interprogram Charges			
Cost Recovery	90,932.22	75,914.62	(15,017.60)
	90,932.22	75,914.62	(15,017.60)
Other Expenses			
Staff Cost	2,500.00	2,500.00	-
Memberships/Professional Dues	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Materials & Supplies - General	13,500.00	6,500.00	(7,000.00)
Consultants	5,000.00	5,000.00	-
Insurance	1,700.00	1,900.00	200.00
Maintenance Expenses	3,425.00	3,000.00	(425.00)
Capital Asset Purchases	28,200.00	96,500.00	(68,300.00)
	55,325.00	116,400.00	(75,525.00)
TOTAL EXPENSES	502,091.55	579,113.13	(77,021.58)
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	(0.00)	-	(0.00)

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Proposed 2023 Budget

Consolidated

From Division 430 Flood Control Structures
To Division 442 4.8 Administration

	BUDGET 2022	BUDGET 2023	\$ CHANGE
REVENUE:			
Municipal Levy Non Match	130,968.37	128,316.42	(2,651.95)
Matching Municipal Levy (Flood)	97,307.00	97,307.00	-
Provincial Grants	97,307.00	97,307.00	-
Municipal Grants	2,000.00	2,000.00	-
Use of Reserves	114,000.00	100,000.00	(14,000.00)
TOTAL REVENUE	441,582.37	424,930.42	(16,651.95)
EXPENSES:			
Wages and Interprogram Charges	241,975.87	246,204.98	4,229.11
	241,975.87	246,204.98	4,229.11
Other Interprogram Charges			
Corp Fleet Charge	9,871.60	10,160.27	288.67
Cost Recovery	39,934.90	32,765.17	(7,169.73)
	49,806.50	42,925.44	(6,881.06)
Other Expenses			
Materials & Supplies - General	84,500.00	107,000.00	22,500.00
Insurance	12,600.00	12,600.00	-
Taxes	1,200.00	1,200.00	-
Capital Asset Purchases	51,500.00	15,000.00	36,500.00
	149,800.00	135,800.00	59,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	441,582.37	424,930.42	16,651.95
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	-	(0.00)	0.00

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Proposed 2023 Budget

Division

630 Tiffin Education

	BUDGET 2022	BUDGET 2023	\$ CHANGE
REVENUE:			
Municipal Levy Non Match	25,346.16	8,777.72	(16,568.44)
Contributions	4,000.00	8,000.00	4,000.00
Federal Sources	2,100.00	3,000.00	900.00
User Fees	148,950.00	214,000.00	65,050.00
TOTAL REVENUE	180,396.16	233,777.72	53,381.56
EXPENSES:			
Wages and Interprogram Charges	140,771.42	189,789.76	49,018.34
	140,771.42	189,789.76	49,018.34
Other Interprogram Charges			
Cost Recovery	34,124.74	38,487.96	4,363.22
	34,124.74	38,487.96	4,363.22
Other Expenses			
Memberships/Professional Dues	500.00	500.00	-
Materials & Supplies - General	5,000.00	5,000.00	-
	5,500.00	5,500.00	-
TOTAL EXPENSES	180,396.16	233,777.72	(53,381.56)
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	-	-	-

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Proposed 2023 Budget

Division

650 Corp-Workshop,Vehicle&Equip

	BUDGET 2022	BUDGET 2023	\$ CHANGE
REVENUE:			
Use of Reserves	39,000.00	37,500.00	(1,500.00)
TOTAL REVENUE	39,000.00	37,500.00	(1,500.00)
EXPENSES:			
Wages and Interprogram Charges	79,572.89	84,846.73	5,273.84
	79,572.89	84,846.73	5,273.84
Other Interprogram Charges			
Cost Recovery	(141,022.89)	(145,146.73)	(4,123.84)
	(141,022.89)	(145,146.73)	(4,123.84)
Other Expenses			
Materials & Supplies - General	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Equipment Costs	500.00	500.00	-
Insurance	10,450.00	10,800.00	350.00
Hydo	2,300.00	2,300.00	-
Heat	2,500.00	2,500.00	-
Maintenance Expenses	20,750.00	20,750.00	-
Uniform Expense	250.00	250.00	-
Licence - Vehicle	1,500.00	-	(1,500.00)
Gas & Oil	22,200.00	22,200.00	-
Capital Asset Purchases	39,000.00	37,500.00	1,500.00
	100,450.00	97,800.00	350.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	39,000.00	37,500.00	1,500.00
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	0.00	0.00	-

Proposed 2023 Budget

Division

660 Corp. Office Infrastructure

	BUDGET 2022	BUDGET 2023	\$ CHANGE
REVENUE:			
TOTAL REVENUE	-	-	-
EXPENSES:			
Other Interprogram Charges			
Cost Recovery	(148,100.00)	(146,400.00)	1,700.00
	(148,100.00)	(146,400.00)	1,700.00
Other Expenses			
Materials & Supplies - General	7,500.00	3,000.00	(4,500.00)
Equipment Costs	7,000.00	7,000.00	-
Insurance	47,000.00	53,800.00	6,800.00
Taxes	1,100.00	1,100.00	-
Hydo	27,000.00	25,000.00	(2,000.00)
Telephone	18,000.00	18,000.00	-
Office Expenses	15,500.00	15,500.00	-
Maintenance Expenses	6,000.00	6,000.00	-
Leases	14,000.00	12,000.00	(2,000.00)
Internet Access	5,000.00	5,000.00	-
	148,100.00	146,400.00	(1,700.00)
TOTAL EXPENSES	-	-	-
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	-	-	-

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Proposed 2023 Budget

Division

661 Tiffin CA & Maintenance

	BUDGET 2022	BUDGET 2023	\$ CHANGE
REVENUE:			
Municipal Levy Non Match	211,976.43	213,780.77	1,804.34
Contributions	9,000.00	25,500.00	16,500.00
User Fees	119,500.00	176,600.00	57,100.00
Use of Reserves	3,000.00	9,500.00	6,500.00
TOTAL REVENUE	343,476.43	425,380.77	81,904.34
EXPENSES:			
Wages and Interprogram Charges	243,242.22	316,205.23	72,963.01
	243,242.22	316,205.23	72,963.01
Other Interprogram Charges			
Cost Recovery	53,234.21	55,875.54	2,641.33
	53,234.21	55,875.54	2,641.33
Other Expenses			
Materials & Supplies - General	16,500.00	23,000.00	6,500.00
Equipment Costs	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Insurance	1,200.00	1,300.00	100.00
Taxes	500.00	500.00	-
Maintenance Expenses	21,000.00	20,700.00	(300.00)
Advertisement and Communications	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Waste Services	2,800.00	2,800.00	-
Capital Asset Purchases	3,000.00	3,000.00	-
	47,000.00	53,300.00	6,300.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	343,476.43	425,380.77	(81,904.34)
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	-	0.00	(0.00)

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Proposed 2023 Budget

Division

670 Corporate Governance

	BUDGET 2022	BUDGET 2023	\$ CHANGE
REVENUE:			
Municipal Levy Non Match	286,506.30	303,186.84	16,680.54
Use of Reserves	39,825.49	41,880.49	2,055.00
TOTAL REVENUE	326,331.79	345,067.33	18,735.54
EXPENSES:			
Wages and Interprogram Charges	330,831.79	349,567.33	18,735.54
	330,831.79	349,567.33	18,735.54
Other Interprogram Charges			
Cost Recovery	(64,800.00)	(60,800.00)	4,000.00
	(64,800.00)	(60,800.00)	4,000.00
Other Expenses			
Memberships/Professional Dues	36,500.00	38,500.00	2,000.00
Education and Training	2,500.00	2,500.00	-
Materials & Supplies - General	4,500.00	3,500.00	(1,000.00)
Transportation Costs	13,000.00	7,000.00	(6,000.00)
Insurance	3,800.00	4,800.00	1,000.00
	60,300.00	56,300.00	(4,000.00)
TOTAL EXPENSES	326,331.79	345,067.33	(18,735.54)
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	-	-	-

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Proposed 2023 Budget

Division

680 Corporate Administration

	BUDGET 2022	BUDGET 2023	\$ CHANGE
REVENUE:			
Municipal Levy Non Match	517,015.29	517,637.98	622.69
Investment Income	25,000.00	50,000.00	25,000.00
TOTAL REVENUE	542,015.29	567,637.98	25,622.69
EXPENSES:			
Wages and Interprogram Charges	517,015.29	517,637.98	622.69
	517,015.29	517,637.98	622.69
Other Interprogram Charges			
Cost Recovery	(215,500.00)	(200,000.00)	15,500.00
	(215,500.00)	(200,000.00)	15,500.00
Other Expenses			
Staff Cost	6,000.00	6,000.00	-
Memberships/Professional Dues	4,000.00	4,000.00	-
Education and Training	27,000.00	29,000.00	2,000.00
Materials & Supplies - General	17,500.00	17,500.00	-
Legal	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Consultants	2,000.00	2,000.00	-
Audit Fees	20,000.00	20,000.00	-
Interest and Bank Charges	20,000.00	30,000.00	10,000.00
Uniform Expense	6,000.00	6,000.00	-
Advertisement and Communications	17,000.00	14,500.00	(2,500.00)
Transfer to Reserves	120,000.00	120,000.00	-
	240,500.00	250,000.00	9,500.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	542,015.29	567,637.98	(25,622.69)
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	-	-	-



Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority

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Member of



Conservation
ONTARIO



Staff Report: 09-03-23-BOD

Date: 3/24/2023

To: Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) Board of Directors

From: Doug Hevenor
CAO/Secretary Treasurer

**SUBJECT: April 1st Submission of 4th Quarterly Staff Report
Administrative Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR)**

Recommendation:

RESOLVED THAT: the update on Memorandums of Understanding and Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority's (NVCA) progress report, be received; and

FURTHER THAT: NVCA's Board of Directors approves this progress report in fulfillment of the fourth progress report to be submitted to the Province by April 1, 2023, as required by O.Reg. 687/21: Transition Plans and Agreements for Programs and Services under Section 21.1.2 of the Act.

Purpose of the Report

This report provides the MNR and the NVCA Board with an update on activity and progress on the development of MOUs relating to the Inventory of Programs and Services (IP&S) with NVCA municipal partners.

Background

The Conservation Authorities Act recent regulatory changes require the NVCA to prepare Transition Plans outlining steps and timelines for the preparation of an IP&S and for the development and execution of funding agreements with participating municipalities.

On December 5, 2020 the Conservation Authorities Act was amended. This was followed by three new regulations on October 1, 2021. These changes require Conservation Authorities (CAs) to:

- Complete a Transition Plan by December 31, 2021
- Complete a Program Inventory by February 28, 2022
- Complete Cost Apportioning Agreements by January 1, 2024

On August 30, 2022, NVCA was advised that through new Orders-In-Council made pursuant to the *Executive Council Act*, the MNRF has been designated as the Ministry responsible for administering the *Conservation Authorities Act*. Moving forward, MECP no longer has duties, functions or responsibilities under the CA Act. MECP, which led the legislative and regulatory changes since 2018, will support MNRF during the transition period. Staff will continue to apprise the Board on any further details regarding this change and will continue to circulate this report to MECP to assist with this transition.

Transition Plans require conservation authorities to:

- Outline the timeline and steps they will follow to prepare a program inventory and enter into cost apportioning agreements with participating municipalities Program

Inventories then require conservation authorities to:

List their current programs and services

- Categorize their programs and services into three categories
 - o Category 1 – prescribed as mandatory by the province
 - o Category 2 – delivered on behalf of municipalities
 - o Category 3 – those that further the conservation, restoration, development and management of natural resources
- Identify the cost of delivering each program and service
- Identify the revenue source(s) of each program and service Cost-Apportioning

Agreements then require conservation authorities to:

- Enter into agreements with participating municipalities for any category 2 or 3 programs that are support by municipal levy.

Issues/Analysis

To provide an update to the Board of Directors on work underway to update and develop new Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) and other agreements with participating and partner municipalities in the context of the updated *Conservation Authorities Act* (CA Act) and regulations, and to obtain Board approval of the second progress report on this work, as required under O.Reg. 687/21, Transition

Plans and Agreements for Programs and Services Under Section 21.1.2 of the Act under the Conservation Authorities Act ("Transition Regulation") and to be submitted to the Province.

Activity

January Activity

- Met with General Managers and CAOs to discuss implications of Bill 23 on MOU development with our municipal partners. Met with CO and CAO/GMs of all 36 CAs
- Provided presentation to Met with CAO and Senior planner from Adjala-Tosorontio to discuss MOU and how to best address council
- Confirmed MOU meeting with Town of Mono CAO Mark Early
- Met with Springwater Council on budget and orientation of new council. Spoke to Bill 23 and development of MOU
- Met with Innisfil Council on budget also spoke to Bill 23 and MOU development.
- Conducted a presentation to Adjala-Tosorontio Council on comprehensive MOU

February Activity

- Met with CO and CAO/GMs of all 36 CA to continue implications of Bill 23 on MOU development
- Met with Senior staff from TRCA to discuss next steps with Adjala-Tosorontio MOU
- Met NVCA Senior Management to review proposed comprehensive administrative MOU
- Met with Collingwood CAO and Senior Staff discussed parts of MOU and implications of Bill 23
- Met with NVCA senior staff to discuss board report on MOU.
- Met with NVCA Chair and Vice Chair to discuss MOU Staff report
- Presented comprehensive MOU, along with Letter to Municipal Partners and Programs and Services outlining Category 1, 2 and 3 items for the MOU
- Received approval of comprehensive MOU for use in discussion with municipal partners.
- Staff Report No. 03-02-23-BOD...RESOLVED THAT: The NVCA Board of Directors receive and approve the use of the Administrative MOU by the CAO

and staff for completing the apportionment cost agreement negotiations between municipal partners and the NVCA

- NVCA CAO and Grand Valley CA CAO met with Municipal partners CAO/Clerks of Amaranth and Melancthon to discuss MOU development
- Followed up contact with Adjala-Tosorontio on next steps with MOU

March Activity

- All 36 GMs/CAOs meeting to continue to discuss MOU development, Ice Management Strategy Report, Land Acquisition and Disposition Strategy, Land Inventory and Resource Management Strategy.
- Met with Oro-Medonte Council over Budget discussing Bill 23 and MOU development
- Provided Administrative MOU, Letter to Council and Programs and Services for Category 1, 2 and 3 items to select watershed CAOs requesting feedback and suggested next steps for development of the Administrative MOU.

Comments or feedback provided by municipalities

Between October 1 and December 31, 2022, NVCA has had informal meetings with the following municipalities within our jurisdiction to present the draft inventory and to move forward MOU discussions with municipalities within our jurisdiction:

Amaranth, Town of Mono, Wasaga Beach, Collingwood, Innisfil, Melancthon, Mulmur, and Oro-Medonte.

In addition, a number of less formal discussions have occurred between NVCA and municipal staff across the jurisdiction to ensure necessary work under existing MOUs and agreements can continue while the new MOUs are being prepared.

Re-affirmed that consensus amongst municipal CAOs that they are still trying to understand implications of Bill 23 and other regulatory changes before beginning more fulsome conversations and negotiations of MOUs and Service Level Agreements.

NVCA will be updating and amending our Programs and Service Inventory and then sending changes out to MNRF and Municipal Partners later in 2023.

Update on the progress of negotiations of cost apportioning agreements with participating municipalities.

Most recently met with CAO and Senior Staff of Adjala-Tosorontio, Mono, Amaranth and Melancthon discussing MOU, 2023 Budget and effects of Bill 23.

Any difficulties experienced that may impact the ability to enter into cost apportioning agreements by the transition date.

At this time, all discussions on specifics have remained very limited, municipalities have not provided a lot of feed back to the NVCA. To date, 7 of 18 partners have provided some form of feedback to our IP&S. Working through Bill 23 continues to be challenging. We are also finding timing delays in setting up meetings with Councils may be problematic, however, I remain confident our negotiations will be forthcoming and productive.

Continue to work developing Land Strategy for Inventory and Strategy for Acquisition and disposition of Land, Ice Control Strategy, and the Watershed Resource Management Strategy.

At this time, NVCA does not foresee the need to request an extension to the January 1, 2024 deadline for having MOUs in place with participating and partner municipalities. Staff will continue to re-assess whether an extension request may be required in 2023 reports to the Board based on the status of MOU approvals across our jurisdiction at that time

Climate Change Implications

This staff report does not result in an increase in green house gases, temperature or precipitation exposure.

Reviewed by and approved for submission by:

Original Signed by:

Doug Hevenor

Chief Administrative Officer



Staff Report: 10-03-23-BOD
Date: 24/03/2023
To: Chair and Members of the Board of Directors
From: Mark Hartley, P.Eng.,
Senior Engineer

SUBJECT: Pretty River Dike Maintenance – WECI Funding Update

Recommendation

RESOLVED THAT: the Board of Directors receive Staff Report No. 10-03-23-BOD for information and;

FURTHER THAT: the Board of Directors approve a contract with Janalco Ltd., replacing Jim Collis for an upset limit of \$99,755.00.

Purpose of the Staff Report

The purpose of this Staff Report is to provide a project update to the Board of Directors for the Pretty River Dike Maintenance project and funding needs.

Background

The Pretty River Dike is a flood conveyance structure through the Town of Collingwood approximately 2.1 kilometres in length that was built in the 1970's in response to historic flooding that occurred in the surrounding urban areas. The floodway provides flood risk reduction to surrounding areas and is primarily owned by the NVCA. The floodway is currently generally in good visual condition but is generally lined with dense shrubs and trees.

Recent draft hydraulic update work completed for the Town of Collingwood identified that major vegetation removal works are needed within the floodway upstream of Hume Street to reduce channel roughness and improve hydraulic capacity, reducing potential spills from the floodway during the Timmins Storm. This project aims to complete the required work to address this recommendation and to support the long-term function of the floodway. The Project Plan includes the following tasks:

1. Communication Plan: inform the community in and around the Pretty River Dyke of the upcoming maintenance work.
2. Phase One: remove small woody material such as smaller trees and large shrubs along the slope of the dike. Lower shrubs such as dogwoods and willows along the edge of the water will not be removed.
3. Phase Two: inventory and assess the larger trees and shrubs and develop a plan to selectively remove those that are compromising the flood capacity of the Pretty River Dike.

The Communication Plan was completed in 2021. The implementation of Phases One and Two will be completed by dividing the Dike into six (6) sections. Phase One was initiated in 2021 with Section 5 being cleared of small woody material.

The NVCA made an application to the Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) program administered by the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry (NDMNR) for funding to support this project in the amount of \$230,000 (50% WECI, 50% Local (Collingwood/NVCA)). This value was determined by using contributions from the Town of Collingwood (\$111,438.00) and the NVCA Capital Asset Management program (\$3,562.00); with local funding totaling \$115,000 and, therefore, matching funding from WECI in the amount of \$115,000. This application was successful with the stipulation that funds be used, specifically, between April 1 2022 and March 31 2023. In December 2022 the WECI funding was reduced to \$ 107,000 after discussions with NVCA staff and reviewing the project cost projections for 2023.

A summary of the project for the 2022-23 season (April 1 2022 to March 31 2023) is as follows:

		Collingwood & NVCA	WECI
AVAILABLE FUNDS		\$ 115,000.00	\$ 107,000.00
EXPENSES			
Jim Collis – Section 6	\$ 100,727.14		
Steve Mann - Trees	\$ 5,393.28		
NVCA staff time	\$ 8,100.00		

Janalco (Tuttle)/Collis – Section 4	\$ 99,775.00		
	\$213,995.42	\$106,997.71	\$106,997.71

The preferred contractor, Jim Collis, retired in January 2023. Mr. Collis has worked closely with Ed Tuttle at Janalco Ltd. for many years and proposes to serve as a Project Manager (part-time) for Janalco to complete Section 4. It is also proposed to use most of Mr. Collis' crew to complete the project. Janalco Ltd. is well known by NVCA Stewardship. Accordingly, NVCA Engineering would like to engage Janalco Ltd. for the upset limit of \$99,775.00.

Issues/Analysis

Large parts of Collingwood are currently regulated for flooding as a result of the mapped Pretty River spill area. While ongoing hydrology and hydraulic work may refine these flood extents, it was identified that vegetation clearing would reduce the amount of flood spill and ultimately enable the elimination of spills through grading changes upstream. NVCA staff are proposing non-structural flood mitigation works including vegetation removal on the Pretty River Dike through Collingwood. It is anticipated that these works will significantly reduce the size of the flood hazard through the downtown.

Relevance to Authority Policy/Mandate

Section 20 of the Conservation Authorities Act defines our mandate. The province has delegated responsibilities to Conservation Authorities for Flood Forecasting and Warning as well as ensuring that development is protected from flooding under Section 28 of the Act. As landowner of the majority of the Pretty River Dike floodway, the NVCA also has a responsibility to ensure that the floodway continues to function as intended.

Impact on Authority Finances

The NVCA has contributed \$15,000 from the Capital Asset Management program (FFW-12-S-12). Some of the 2022 funds have already been spent leaving \$ 3,562.00 available for the remainder of 2022. The remaining project funds will be addressed through Town of Collingwood and WECI funding.

Climate Change Implications

The NVCA assesses climate implications in all staff reports using the Clean Air Partnership's '[Municipal Climate Lens Tool](#)' to consider climate impacts or benefits

associated with any project, program, or initiative. The following is a summary of the results.

Municipal Climate Lens Tool	Results
Mitigation	Project will not result in the production of green house gases
Temperature	Project can not be affected by temperature
Precipitation	Project can not be affected by precipitation

Reviewed by:
Original Signed by
Chris Hibberd
Director, Watershed Management Services

Approved for submission by:
Original Signed by
Doug Hevenor
Chief Administrative Officer



Staff Report: 11-03-23-BOD

Date: 24/03/2023

To: Chair and Members of the Board of Directors

From: Maria Leung, Senior Communications Specialist

SUBJECT: Communications Report – February 11, 2023 – March 10, 2023

Recommendation

RESOLVED THAT: Staff Report No. 11-03-23-BOD regarding NVCA Communications – February 11, 2023 – March 10, 2023, be received.

Purpose of the Staff Report

This staff report presents a summary of NVCA media coverage and public outreach during the period of February 11, 2023 – March 10, 2023.

The following outlines the communications and media coverage during the period.

1. Flood Messages

Spring Safety: Be careful near waterways, issued on March 9, 2023

Title	Media Outlet	Date
Conservation authority urges caution around edges of waterways	Bradford Today	March 9, 2023
Conservation authority provides safety tips as ice melts	Collingwood Today	March 9, 2023
NVCA warns banks near watercourses: slippery when wet	CTV News Barrie	March 10, 2023

Title	Media Outlet	Date
NVCA warns banks near watercourses: slippery when wet	iHeart Radio	March 10, 2023

2. Media coverage of NVCA news releases

No media releases were issued in this coverage period

All other media releases can be found on [NVCA website under "News."](#)

3. Other Media Coverage

Title	Media Outlet	Date	Reference
Shipyards developer says restaurant won't work, council counters	Barrie Today	February 14, 2023	
Shipyards developer says restaurant won't work, council counters	Collingwood Today	February 14, 2023	
WHAT'S HAPPENING FAMILY DAY LONG WEEKEND	107.5 Kool FM	February 15, 2023	
FAMILY DAY ACTIVITIES: WHAT'S HAPPENING IN BARRIE & AREA	Barrie 360	February 15, 2023	
WHAT'S HAPPENING FAMILY DAY LONG WEEKEND	Rock 95	February 15, 2023	
Conservation authority shows kids where the wild things are	Barrie Today	February 19, 2023	
Here's what's happening across Barrie for Family Day	CTV Barrie	February 21, 2022	Naomi Saunders, Manager, Education
LIST: Things to do with your kids this March break in New Tecumseth, Essa	Alliston Herald	March 10, 2023	

Title	Media Outlet	Date	Reference
NVCA looking for volunteers for Spring Tonic Festival	New Tecumseth Times	March 9, 2023	

DISCLAIMER: NVCA does not allege that the information provided in the media articles depicts accurate statements or testimonies on behalf of any individual named, and is not responsible for any misinterpretation of information or misquoted statement(s).

2. Other Communication/Media Outreach

- Ongoing – social media outreach (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn)

3. Presentations/Displays/Key Events by NVCA staff

- February 19, 2023 – Education team outreach to Barrie Public Library
- February 23, 2023 – CAO Doug Hevenor, Byron Wesson, Director, Conservation Services and Chris Hibberd, Director, Watershed Management Services gave a presentation the Christian Farmers of Ontario AGM regarding Bill 23

Issues/Analysis

In this reporting period, NVCA was faced with the challenge of Bill 23, *More Homes Built Faster Act*, which received positive media coverage. All media coverage and public outreach/communications were positive with regard to NVCA work and programs.

There are no issues of concern at this time.

Impact on Authority Finances

Staff time to prepare this report is addressed in the 2023 budget.

Climate Change Implications

This staff report does not result in an increase in green house gases, temperature or precipitation exposure.

Reviewed by:
Original Signed by
Sheryl Flannagan
Director, Corporate Services

Approved for submission by:
Original Signed by
Doug Hevenor
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment 1 – Media Clippings for the period

Shipyards developer says restaurant won't work, council counters

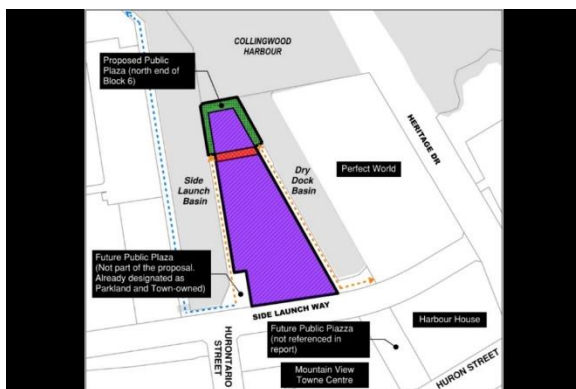
'If you talk to visitors or residents, the number one amenity that seems to be missing now is a waterfront restaurant,' says councillor

February 14, 2023 by Jessica Owen

Barrie Today



1 / 2 An artist's rendering of the proposed Collingwood Quay development, which will be located on Side Launch Way along Collingwood's waterfront. Artist's rendering



2 / 2 A map of the Shipyards area shows the proximity of the Collingwood Quay development to Harbour House and Perfect World developments. Screenshot

A major, six-storey development project proposed for one of the final, undeveloped blocks of Collingwood's shipyard area came before councillors on Monday (Feb. 13), asking for changes to zoning to allow the development, but hit a snag.

The request to remove a requirement for a restaurant at the north end of the proposed Collingwood Quay development proved to be a sticking point for many councillors, who voted to refer the entire file back to staff to do a peer review of the developer's retail feasibility study before they'll make further decisions on zoning changes for the land.

"I believe that the rationale that's been offered here – that there is not sufficient commercial opportunity or viability – is very ill-conceived," said Coun. Deb Doherty during Monday's meeting. "The amount of population we'll be adding... there's going to be a massive residential component and a captive audience for such a service on the waterfront."

"If you talk to visitors or residents, the number one amenity that seems to be missing now is a waterfront restaurant," she said. "Deleting that restaurant opportunity from the harbour is a loss."

The Collingwood Quay development, owned by developer FRAM and Slokker, is looking to build a six-storey, mixed-use building on the 0.7 hectares to the north side of Side Launch Way. The development would be neighbour to the future [Perfect World development](#) to the east, and

the [Harbour House development](#) under construction to the south.

The project is planned to include a maximum of 101 condominium apartment units, and a minimum of 300 square metres of ground-floor commercial space, with underground parking for building tenants and above-ground parking for retail patrons. Also included would be a waterfront promenade/trail around the perimeter.

The property is currently vacant and was historically an industrial site as part of the Collingwood Shipyards. It is currently zoned under the Official Plan as commercial, with some parkland running through the middle of the land.

The purpose of the zoning changes being requested to the property now would be to allow mixed use on the site, which would include residential dwelling units on the ground floor, to adjust the parkland designation so the trail could run around the perimeter rather than running through the middle of the property, and to remove a requirement for a restaurant at the north end of the site.

As part of the submission package, a retail feasibility study was completed for the property by Tate Economic Research Inc. which concluded that it is not an appropriate location for a significant amount of retail.

To access all the studies prepared by the developer as part of their submission package, click [here](#).

During public consultations on the development which took place in July

2022, three public comments were received regarding concerns over the building height, the promenade continuation and high water levels. During Monday's meeting, resident Bob Eckhart raised concerns about the stability of the land, as his home faces the east side of the former launch basin.

"My concern is the condition of the concrete retaining wall," said Eckhart. "I've witnessed erosion of that concrete over the years, and I have concern about new construction."

An agent for FRAM and Slokker Bennet MacNeil said the developer has agreed to reconstruct the shoreline wall in its entirety as a condition of permit, and have initiated a separate process for that with town staff, the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority and Tatham Engineering as a peer reviewer.

During council comments on the development, Mayor Yvonne Hamlin noted there have been examples of development plans along the waterfront over the years that were intended to be mixed-use, but ended up being fully residential constructions, which caused her concern for the waterfront as a whole.

"What we have, so far, is just residential," she said. "Now, we have the last piece. It was so important to our community to not just have retail/commercial space at the north end of this property, but it's stipulated in the planning documents that it be a restaurant."

Hamlin noted the specific designation is unusual but necessary, as it was

important to the community to make sure there was back-and-forth foot traffic between Collingwood's downtown and the waterfront.

"I was so disappointed to see this come forward with the elimination of the restaurant at the front with a retail feasibility study that, in my view, didn't address what the issue was and assumed all kinds of facts that are incorrect," she said.

Deputy Mayor Tim Fryer noted there is still a restaurant included as part of plans for the Perfect World development as well. Town Planner Justin Teakle noted that while the zoning for the Perfect World development does include a restaurant as part of their plans, it is not a requirement under their current zoning.

Doherty shared further concerns that the way the waterfront is currently being built-out favours private access.

"It seems to me our waterfront animation opportunities are secondary to private access and enjoyment of the waterfront, and I think as we continue to build out the waterfront, we need to be very cognizant of that," said Doherty. "The waterfront master plan outlined complete enjoyment of the waterfront for all and this configuration of this building right now fails to achieve that."

At the end of discussion, Hamlin put forward a motion to refer the Official Plan and zoning bylaw amendments for the Collingwood Quay project back to town staff for a peer review of the retail feasibility study prior to council

making any decisions on the amendments.

The motion passed by a vote of 4-3, with Fryer, Coun. Kathy Jeffery and Coun. Rob Ring opposed. Coun. Brandon Houston and Coun. Steve Perry were absent from the meeting.

Shipyards developer says restaurant won't work, council counters

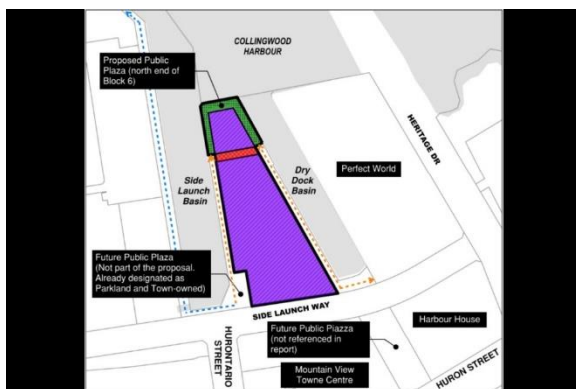
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February 14, 2023 by Jessica Owen

Collingwood Today



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2 / 2 A map of the Shipyards area shows the proximity of the Collingwood Quay development to Harbour House and Perfect World developments. Screenshot

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"I believe that the rationale that's been offered here – that there is not sufficient commercial opportunity or viability – is very ill-conceived," said Coun. Deb Doherty during Monday's meeting. "The amount of population we'll be adding... there's going to be a massive residential component and a captive audience for such a service on the waterfront."

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The property is currently vacant and was historically an industrial site as part of the Collingwood Shipyards. It is currently zoned under the Official Plan as commercial, with some parkland running through the middle of the land.

The purpose of the zoning changes being requested to the property now would be to allow mixed use on the site, which would include residential dwelling units on the ground floor, to adjust the parkland designation so the trail could run around the perimeter rather than running through the middle of the property, and to remove a requirement for a restaurant at the north end of the site.

As part of the submission package, a retail feasibility study was completed for the property by Tate Economic Research Inc. which concluded that it is not an appropriate location for a significant amount of retail.

To access all the studies prepared by the developer as part of their submission package, click [here](#).

During public consultations on the development which took place in July

2022, three public comments were received regarding concerns over the building height, the promenade continuation and high water levels. During Monday's meeting, resident Bob Eckhart raised concerns about the stability of the land, as his home faces the east side of the former launch basin.

"My concern is the condition of the concrete retaining wall," said Eckhart. "I've witnessed erosion of that concrete over the years, and I have concern about new construction."

An agent for FRAM and Slokker Bennet MacNeil said the developer has agreed to reconstruct the shoreline wall in its entirety as a condition of permit, and have initiated a separate process for that with town staff, the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority and Tatham Engineering as a peer reviewer.

During council comments on the development, Mayor Yvonne Hamlin noted there have been examples of development plans along the waterfront over the years that were intended to be mixed-use, but ended up being fully residential constructions, which caused her concern for the waterfront as a whole.

"What we have, so far, is just residential," she said. "Now, we have the last piece. It was so important to our community to not just have retail/commercial space at the north end of this property, but it's stipulated in the planning documents that it be a restaurant."

Hamlin noted the specific designation is unusual but necessary, as it was

important to the community to make sure there was back-and-forth foot traffic between Collingwood's downtown and the waterfront.

"I was so disappointed to see this come forward with the elimination of the restaurant at the front with a retail feasibility study that, in my view, didn't address what the issue was and assumed all kinds of facts that are incorrect," she said.

Deputy Mayor Tim Fryer noted there is still a restaurant included as part of plans for the Perfect World development as well. Town Planner Justin Teakle noted that while the zoning for the Perfect World development does include a restaurant as part of their plans, it is not a requirement under their current zoning.

Doherty shared further concerns that the way the waterfront is currently being built-out favours private access.

"It seems to me our waterfront animation opportunities are secondary to private access and enjoyment of the waterfront, and I think as we continue to build out the waterfront, we need to be very cognizant of that," said Doherty. "The waterfront master plan outlined complete enjoyment of the waterfront for all and this configuration of this building right now fails to achieve that."

At the end of discussion, Hamlin put forward a motion to refer the Official Plan and zoning bylaw amendments for the Collingwood Quay project back to town staff for a peer review of the retail feasibility study prior to council

making any decisions on the amendments.

The motion passed by a vote of 4-3, with Fryer, Coun. Kathy Jeffery and Coun. Rob Ring opposed. Coun. Brandon Houston and Coun. Steve Perry were absent from the meeting.

WHAT'S HAPPENING FAMILY DAY LONG WEEKEND

FEBRUARY 14TH, 15TH, 16TH & 17TH

107.5 KoolFM by Marie Gagne

February 15, 2023

Family Day is almost here! If you're looking for something to do, you're in luck! Barrie and the surrounding area are home to a number of activities to celebrate the occasion, with many of them being free of charge.

In fact, there are so many things to do on Family Day, you may struggle to choose what activities to add to your list.

Before we jump, here are the services that will be affected by Family Day.

BARRIE SERVICES THAT WILL BE AFFECTED BY FAMILY DAY

Barrie Transit: Transit will be following its regular Sunday schedule. For more information, visit myridebarrie.ca.

Curbside Collection: There will be no garbage, organics, or recycling collection in Barrie on Family Day. Garbage collection for the rest of the week will be delayed by one day. For more information, visit www.barrie.ca/CurbsideCollection

City Hall will be closed.

Parking: Downtown parking, including on-street and lot parking, is free on Family Day and all other statutory holidays. Waterfront parking is enforced every day of the year and residents must display their permits. Visitors must pay \$10 per hour, with a

daily maximum of \$50. For more details, please refer to www.barrie.ca/Parking.

FAMILY DAY ACTIVITIES

There are lots of great family day activities happening in Barrie and the surrounding towns during Family Day weekend. Here are some highlights ...

ACTIVITIES IN BARRIE

If you're looking to stay within the city limits, you have tons of great options:

1. BARRIE'S FAMILY DAY WINTER ADVENTURE

The City of Barrie is organizing a [Family Day Winter Adventure](#) event, which is ideal for a family-friendly day out. The event is free, and there are plenty of exciting activities to participate in, including:

- Axe throwing
- Broomball
- Kicksledding
- Horse-drawn sleigh rides
- Skating
- Snowshoeing
- And more ...

The event takes place at the Barrie Community Sports Complex from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Family Day.

2. NATURE IN WINTER POP-UP AT SUNNIDALE PARK

The [Nature In Winter Pop-Up](#) event at Sunnidale Park runs from February 17th to 20th. The event offers a self-guided tour with QR-coded videos and information from the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority.

The Great Backyard Bird Count will also take place at the designated feeder station located on the path behind the Dorian Parker Centre.

3. ACTIVITIES AT BARRIE RECREATION CENTRES

Drop-in activities at Allendale Recreation Centre, East Bayfield Recreation Centre, and Peggy Hill Team Community Centre start from 6 AM to 9 PM on February 20th.

Activities include fitness classes, public skates, open swims, and hockey, providing a great way to stay active and engaged with others. You can view the schedule for the day by visiting barrie.ca.

4. FREE PAINTBALL AT BARRIE PAINTBALL

Barrie Paintball is offering [free paintballing](#) on Family Day. The event is from 11 AM to 5 PM. Both entry and equipment are free, except for paint.

Paint is available at a discounted price of \$120 for a case of 2000 (regularly \$160). Visitors are encouraged to arrive early to avoid waiting times.

5. CELEBRATION OF DIVERSITY AT MACLAREN ART CENTRE

The MacLaren Art Centre is hosting a [Celebration of Diversity](#) on Family Day. The event is split into two events, with the first taking place at the MacLaren from 10 AM to 1 PM. Visitors will be able to tour the current exhibitions and participate in a printmaking class led by Kim Brett.

The second part of the event will be held at Shak's World Community

Centre from 12 PM to 3:30 PM. Families will join in on an art project followed by live entertainment.

RELATED: [Support Shak's World by grabbing a pink shirt and wearing it February 22 ...](#)

6. HOT COCOA TRAIL IN DOWNTOWN BARRIE

Celebrate Family Day weekend with the [Downtown Hot Cocoa Trail](#) from February 18th to 19th. Enjoy a cup of hot chocolate at over 25 locations, each with its unique twist on the classic treat. Plus, with every purchase, you'll have a chance to win a \$250 Downtown Barrie prize pack.

EVENTS HAPPENING OUTSIDE OF BARRIE

Here is a list of events happening throughout Simcoe County if you're up for a short drive ...

2. FREE FISHING EVERYWHERE

Ontario is offering a rare chance to fish without a license this weekend. You can fish for free, but you will still need to follow specific rules. This includes catch limits, size limits, staying away from protected areas, and other fishing regulations.

You can borrow fishing equipment from the [TackleShare program](#) available through the Barrie Public Library or other [loaner sites](#).

2. FAMILY DAY AT HORSESHOE VALLEY

Join [Horseshoe Valley](#) for a fun-filled Family Day celebration. From February 17 to 19, take a magical moonlit snowshoe adventure that includes

snowshoe rentals, headlamps, and warm beverages by the fire. The tours depart at 7 PM and 8 PM from the Main Chalet's Alpine Rental Centre.

On February 18, families can enjoy a thrilling night of glow tubing with glow sticks being given out for free with tubing passes.

To wrap up the weekend, enjoy the lively Family Day Live On The DJ Deck event on Monday, February 20 from 12 PM to 7 PM with Andrew Hutt.

2. FAMILY DAY AT SIMCOE COUNTY MUSEUM

Take a trip to the [Simcoe County Museum](#) this Family Day with over 300 acres of outdoor adventure. Activities include snowshoeing, tobogganing, and ice skating on the 1 km skating trail.

Admission is \$8 for adults, \$6 for youth and seniors, and \$5 for children. Free admission is provided for preschoolers and museum members. The event includes all activities for the day, with free snowshoe rentals. You will need to bring your own skates, helmets, skate assists, and toboggans.

2. FRIDAY HARBOUR SKATE ESCAPE

For a thrilling Family Day experience, head to Friday Harbour for [Skate Escape](#). Enjoy ice skating in the Piazza, live music performances, and the pay-per-use Skate Trail.

After your outdoor activities, head to the cozy chalets for a treat or enjoy a warm cup of hot chocolate and signature cocktails in the warming lounges.

2. SNOWMAN MANIA

From February 17 to 20, Wasaga Beach will be hosting [Snowman Mania](#). The festival grew from a simple snow-building competition and now offers a variety of events and activities for all ages.

Enjoy fire-spinning performances, mesmerizing fireworks, an inflatable maze, kicksledding, axe throwing, magic shows, cozying up with a cup of hot chocolate in an igloo and so much more!

FAMILY DAY ACTIVITIES: WHAT'S HAPPENING IN BARRIE & AREA

FAMILY DAY EVENT AT THE BARRIE COMMUNITY SPORTS COMPLEX

Barrie 360

February 15, 2023



With no shortage of things to do on Family Day, your only problem will be narrowing down your options. Barrie and the surrounding areas have all kinds of activities happening this weekend in celebration of Family day and many of them are free!

OUTDOOR FAMILY DAY ACTIVITIES IN BARRIE AND AREA

Barrie and surrounding areas have plenty of events and activities planned to keep you busy this **Family Day (Monday, February 20, 2023)**. Here's what you need to know:

BARRIE'S FAMILY DAY WINTER ADVENTURE

The City of Barrie is hosting a [Family Day event](#) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Barrie Community Sports Complex (2100 Nursery Road, Midhurst). The event offers FREE outdoor activities including:

- Axe throwing (ages 10+)
- Skating

- Broomball
- Horse-drawn sleigh rides
- Tobogganing (bring your own sled)
- Kicksledding
- Snowshoeing

When you're ready to take a break from the cold, warm up by the bonfire or make some crafts.

NATURE IN WINTER POP-UP

From February 17 to February 20 you can head over to Sunnidale Park for the [Nature In Winter Pop-Up](#). While there, you can learn about the natural world during winter with a self-guided tour. The tour features QR-coded videos and information provided by the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority. You'll find the QR codes displayed around the playground area and along the path to the feeder.

You can also join in on the Great Backyard Bird Count at our designated feeder station. On-site instructions will guide you on how to participate. The feeder can be found on the path behind the Dorian Parker Centre, right on the edge of the forest.

FREE PAINTBALL AT BARRIE PAINTBALL

Get out and try something new this Family Day. Barrie Paintball is offering a day of [free paintball](#) on February 20 from 11 AM to 5 PM. All you have to pay for is the paint, which is on sale for \$120/case of 2000 (normally \$160)! Entry, equipment, and HPA will be free.

Come early to avoid the wait. No equipment reservations are allowed on Family Day.

FAMILY DAY AT SIMCOE COUNTY MUSEUM

This Family Day, come and explore the 300+ acres of the [Simcoe County Museum](#). Take a journey down the 1 km skating trail, snowshoe through the forest, or zoom down the toboggan hill. Or enjoy one of the many indoor and outdoor activities that are sure to delight the entire family, including delicious treats!

Admission is \$8 for adults, \$6 for youth and seniors, and \$5 for children. Preschoolers and Museum Members are free.

All the activities for the day are included with your event admission. Please bring your own skates, helmets, skate assists, and toboggans. Snowshoe rentals are available for free.

FREE FISHING

There are only 4 times a year you can fish in Ontario without a license and this weekend is one of them. Enjoy fishing all weekend long without having to go get a permit to do so.

But remember, you still need to follow a few rules including:

- Conservation licence catch limits
- Size limits and sanctuaries
- Fishing regulations

If you need equipment, take advantage of the [TackleShare program](#) through the Barrie Public Library or other [loaner sites](#).

SKATE ESCAPE AT FRIDAY HARBOUR

The [Skate Escape](#) at Friday Harbour will be open on Family Day. Activities include ice skating in the Piazza, live entertainment, and the Harbour Skate Trail (pay-to-use). Once you're ready to warm up, you can head to the chalet cabins for some treat or enjoy a cup of hot chocolate and handcrafted cocktails in the warming lounges.

SNOWMAN MANIA

What started as a snow-building competition years ago, is now a full-blown winter festival with activities for the whole family.

From February 17 to 20, Wasaga Beach will be hosting [Snowman Mania](#). Each day will be filled with tons of events and activities including:

- Fire spinning performances
- Fireworks
- An inflatable maze
- Kicksledding
- Axe throwing
- Hot chocolate in an igloo
- The Snowman Mania Illumination Trail
- Horse and carriage rides
- Indoor games
- Toolbox building and crafts
- Magic shows
- Pancake breakfast
- And more ...

HOT COCOA TRAIL

Warm up before your day of family fun with delicious hot chocolate from February 18 to 19.

The [Downtown Hot Cocoa Trail](#) will be running for just two more weekends until the end of the month. There are over 25 participating locations with

unique takes on hot chocolate and delicious treats.

As an added bonus, every purchase of hot chocolate at any of the participating locations will include the chance to win a \$250 Downtown Barrie prize pack!

FAMILY DAY FUN AT HORSESHOE VALLEY

[Horseshoe Valley](#) is celebrating Family Day all weekend long. Enjoy glow tubing and a live DJ on February 18. Families will get a free glow stick with a tubing pass between 6 PM to 9 PM.

From February 17 to 19, you can also go on a moonlit snowshoe adventure. The one-hour tour includes snowshoe rentals, headlamps, and hot beverages around the fire. The tour leaves at 7 PM and 8 PM from the Alpine Rental Centre at the Main Chalet.

Cap the weekend off with Family Day Live On The DJ Deck with Andrew Hutt on Monday, February 20 from 12 PM to 7 PM.

INDOOR FAMILY DAY ACTIVITIES IN BARRIE

If you're looking for indoor fun, we've got you covered ...

BARRIE REC CENTRES

All three recreation centres (Allendale Rec Centre, East Bayfield Rec Centre and Peggy Hill Team Community Centre) will offer a variety of drop-in activities from 6 AM to 9 PM on Family Day. Activities include:

- Fitness classes
- Open swim

- Family Day swim
- Aquafit
- Stick & Puck
- Hockey
- Public skate
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Pickleball
- And more ...

To view the schedule, visit barrie.ca.

MACLAREN ART CENTRE

This Family Day, [MacLaren Art Centre](#) is hosting a Celebration of Diversity. The first event will take place at MacLaren from 10 AM to 1 PM. Here, families will be able to explore the current exhibitions, as well as enjoy a printmaking class with Kim Brett. Using monotype, stamping, and collagraph printing you will create unique family portraits.

A second event will be held at Shak's World Community Centre from 12 PM to 3:30 PM. Families will participate in a creative painting and embroidery project followed by live entertainment.

WHAT'S HAPPENING FAMILY DAY LONG WEEKEND

FAMILY DAY EVENT AT THE BARRIE COMMUNITY SPORTS COMPLEX

Rock 95 by Marie Gagne

February 15, 2023

Family Day is filled with endless possibilities, making it hard to choose just one activity. Luckily, Barrie and the surrounding areas are hosting multiple events in celebration of this special day. The best part is, many of them are free!

Before we jump into the activities, let's take a look at the history of Family Day ...

HOW FAMILY DAY WEEKEND STARTED

Ontario didn't always have a three-day holiday weekend in February. We used to go all the way from Christmas to Easter before getting a long weekend. It wasn't until 2007, when Dalton McGuinty made it a campaign promise that if he were to be re-elected as Premier of the Province, he would create a provincial holiday in February.

The reality is, most of us celebrate and spend time with our family all year round. But it's nice to have a long weekend dedicated to forgetting about our day-to-day responsibilities and enjoying time together. Especially in the middle of winter.

FAMILY DAY ACTIVITIES IN SIMCOE COUNTY

If you aren't sure how you want to spend Family Day 2023, here's a list

of things happening all over the region this weekend ...

1. BARRIE'S FAMILY DAY WINTER ADVENTURE

The City of Barrie is hosting a [Family Day Winter Adventure](#) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the **Barrie Community Sports Complex (2100 Nursery Road, Midhurst)**.

Start your day with exciting activities, including axe throwing, kicksledding, horse-drawn sleigh rides, and broomball. Or try your hand at skating, snowshoeing, and tobogganing.

Once you're ready to take a break from the cold, warm up by the bonfire or participate in some craft-making. All activities are offered for free, making it the perfect family-friendly event for this special day.

2. FAMILY DAY AT SIMCOE COUNTY MUSEUM

On Family Day, embark on an adventure through the 300+ acres of the [Simcoe County Museum](#). Head out on the 1 km skating trail, snowshoe in the forest, or hurt down the toboggan hill.

Admission is:

\$8 for adults

\$6 for youth and seniors

\$5 for children

FREE for preschoolers and museum members.

All activities for the day are included in the event admission. Snowshoe rentals are available for free but you'll

have to bring your own skates, helmets, skate assists, and toboggans.

3. NATURE IN WINTER POP-UP

Discover the wonders of the natural world during winter with the [Nature In Winter Pop-Up](#) at Sunnidale Park from February 17th to 20th. The event includes a self-guided tour with QR-coded videos and information provided by the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority. The codes can be found around the playground area and along the path to the feeder.

Once you're done learning, join the Great Backyard Bird Count at the designated feeder station located on the path behind the Dorian Parker Centre, at the edge of the forest. On-site instructions will be provided to guide you through the participation process.

Don't miss this opportunity to learn and appreciate the beauty of nature during the winter months.

4. BARRIE REC CENTRES

On February 20th, the Allendale Recreation Centre, East Bayfield Recreation Centre, and Peggy Hill Team Community Centre will be offering an array of drop-in activities from 6 AM to 9 PM. Activities include fitness classes, public skates, open swims, hockey, and more.

To view the schedule, visit barrie.ca.

5. MACLAREN ART CENTRE

This Family Day, the MacLaren Art Centre will be hosting a [Celebration of Diversity](#). The celebration will be held in two parts, with the first event

taking place at the MacLaren from 10 AM to 1 PM. Here, families will be able to tour the current exhibitions and participate in a printmaking class led by Kim Brett. Using techniques like monotype, stamping, and collagraph printing, families will have the opportunity to create special family portraits.

The second part of the celebration will be held at Shak's World Community Centre from 12 PM to 3:30 PM. During this event, families will join in on an art project followed by live entertainment.

6. FREE FISHING

In Ontario, you have a few opportunities to fish without a license, and this weekend is one of those rare chances. So, make the most of it and enjoy fishing without having to obtain a permit.

Keep in mind that you're still required to abide by certain rules, such as:

- Catch limits outlined in your conservation license
- Size limits and protected areas
- Fishing regulations in place

If you don't have fishing equipment, take advantage of the [TackleShare program](#) available through the Barrie Public Library or other [loaner sites](#).

7. FREE PAINTBALL AT BARRIE PAINTBALL

Experience the thrill of paintball this Family Day, with a free day of play at [Barrie Paintball](#). On February 20th, from 11 AM to 5 PM, enjoy all the excitement of paintball without paying for equipment or entry. Just pay for paint, which is available at a

discounted price of \$120 for a case of 2000 (regularly \$160).

Be sure to arrive early to avoid any wait times, as equipment reservations are not permitted on Family Day.

8. HOT COCOA TRAIL

Heat up your Family Day weekend with the [Downtown Hot Cocoa Trail](#)!

From February 18th to 19th, get cozy with a cup of delicious hot chocolate at over 25 locations during the Downtown Hot Cocoa Trail. Each stop will offer a unique twist on the classic treat, as well as a chance to win a \$250 Downtown Barrie prize pack with every purchase! So before you head out for a day of fun, warm up with a sweet and indulgent drink.

9. FAMILY DAY FUN AT HORSESHOE VALLEY

Get ready for a fun-filled Family Day celebration at [Horseshoe Valley](#). On February 18, grab your friends and family for a thrilling night of glow tubing and grooving to a live DJ. From 6 PM to 9 PM, families will receive a complimentary glow stick with their tubing passes.

From February 17 to 19, take a magical moonlit snowshoe adventure. The one-hour tour includes snowshoe rentals, headlamps, and warm beverages by the fire. The tours depart at 7 PM and 8 PM from the Main Chalet's Alpine Rental Centre.

To wrap up the weekend, join Andrew Hutt for a lively Family Day Live On The DJ Deck event on Monday, February 20 from 12 PM to 7 PM.

10. SKATE ESCAPE AT FRIDAY HARBOUR

Get ready for an exciting experience this Family Day with [Skate Escape](#) at Friday Harbour. Enjoy activities like ice skating in the Piazza, live music performances, and the thrilling pay-per-use Harbour Skate Trail.

Once you've had your fill of fun outdoor activities, head to the cozy chalet cabins for a treat or enjoy a warm cup of hot chocolate and signature cocktails in the luxurious warming lounges.

11. SNOWMAN MANIA

From February 17 to 20 head to [Snowman Mania](#), taking place in Wasaga Beach. The festival grew from a simple snow-building competition and now offers a variety of events and activities for all ages.

Experience the excitement of fire-spinning performances, mesmerizing fireworks, and an inflatable maze. Try your hand at kicksledding and axe throwing, enjoy a magic shows, or cozy up with a cup of hot chocolate in an igloo. Take a stroll through the Snowman Mania Illumination Trail, go on horse-drawn carriage rides, get creative with toolbox building and crafts, and play indoor games.

There's really something for everyone to enjoy at Snowman Mania!

Conservation authority shows kids where the wild things are

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority hosts interactive learning session at Painswick branch of Barrie Public Library

February 19, 2023 by Kevin Lamb

Barrie Today



1 / 6 Brothers Kaiden and Maverick try making their own snow tracks while visiting the hands-on experience with animal tracks, their droppings left behind, and other signs of their existence in the wild, put on by the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority at the Painswick branch of the Barrie Public Library on Saturday afternoon. | Kevin Lamb for BarrieToday

The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority hosted an interactive session at the Painswick branch of the Barrie Public Library on Saturday that saw children learning about how to identify animal footprints in the wild, along with other things left behind by wildlife such as their scat and browse marks on trees and other plants.

There was a table with animal tracks, a table with animal scat, and they discussed different animals and if they

are sleeping or if they are hibernating at this time of year, and if they are active during the wintertime, what you would actually see.

A hands-on table featured browse, which are different plants that have been chewed on by deer or rabbits, and ball-galls, which are signs of insects that you would even see in the winter, as larvae try to hibernate through the winter.

Naomi Saunders, manager of the Environmental Education Program at the Tiffin Centre, walked the kids through the activities that were on offer. "We are here to help children and their families learn about the signs of wildlife, the animals that live around us, but we don't often get to see them, but in wintertime we can see signs of wildlife and what they leave behind."

The most popular activity with the kids is making their own tracks, with the rubber models that are available, pushed into the snow making a footprint.

"While sharing with the kids what they can find, often times what we'll hear is 'oh, I have seen that before,' so the more connections people can make, by recognizing things and knowing what they are, the more they will feel at home with nature, so any little tidbit they can take with them and share with somebody else, they are making better connections with the land," said Saunders.

These little signs are everywhere, and you just have to begin to look for them.

On a personal level, Saunders said that she enjoys being outside this time of year. "I love getting out on the land and taking pictures and identifying things for myself, and I use citizen science apps like Seek or iNaturalist. You can take pictures of tracks and they might let you know what it is if you don't know, or confirm what you might think it is," she said.

Sometimes one can be quite surprised with what they may find while out and about in the wild.

"Last winter we saw fisher tracks at the Tiffin Centre. They are elusive and their range is about 100 km, which is pretty big. They're also pretty ferocious, so it's nice to find something like that, that you don't normally get to see, and I've only ever seen them once before. I've also seen (their tracks) out at the Minesing wetlands when we have had snowshoe hikes out there."

Tracking tracks can be a great reason to get out and get walking in the wintertime. Keep your head down and eyes peeled. You never know what you might find.

Here's what's happening across Barrie for Family Day

February 21, 2022 by Ian Duffy

CTV Barrie

There are a number of special events happening across the City of Barrie for Family Day on Monday.

What's Happening

"Family Day: Celebration of Diversity" at Shak's World Community Centre (59 Maple Avenue, Barrie) from 12 to 3:30 p.m. as part of Black History Month. This free event features a creative painting and embroidery project, followed by musical entertainment. Details are available [online](#).

"Family Day Winter Adventure" at Barrie Community Sports Complex (2100 Nursery Road, Midhurst) until 2 p.m. Join the City of Barrie for horse-drawn sleigh rides, skating on an outdoor rink, snowshoeing, broomball, kicksledding, and axe throwing (ages 10+). Plus, bring your own sled to go tobogganing. Then warm up by the bonfire and try your hand at a craft.

"Nature in Winter: Pop-Up at Sunnidale Park": From 1 to 4 p.m. learn about our environment in winter, with a self-guided tour with QR-coded videos and information presented by the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority. The QR codes will be posted around the playground area toward the feeder. You may also participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count at the feeder station. Look for instructions on-site on how to get involved. The feeder will be located on the edge of

the forest on the path directly behind the Dorian Parker Centre.

Barrie's recreation/community centres have a drop-in schedule for activities, including public skates and swimming throughout the day, available on the [city's website](#).

What's Open and Closed

Downtown parking is free on statutory holiday on streets and in lots.

Waterfront parking is still enforced.

There is no garbage, organics or recycling collection on Family Day in Barrie. Collection during the week of this holiday will occur one day later for the remainder of the week.

Barrie transit is operating on a Sunday service schedule.

City Hall is closed.

Conservation authority urges caution around edges of waterways

As well, slippery and unstable streambanks and extremely cold-water, temperatures can also lead to hazardous conditions close to bodies of water

March 9, 2023

Bradford Today



File photo: Image supplied by Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

NEWS RELEASE

**LAKE SIMCOE REGION
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority is reminding residents of the dangers that exist near bodies of water, particularly around this time of year, and urges people to keep family and pets away from the edges of all waterways.

Spring is quickly approaching and with warmer temperatures, people look forward to getting outdoors. Warmer temperatures, however, also usually bring rain, melting snow and shifting

ice, which can contribute to higher, faster-flowing water in watercourses.

There is still a significant amount of snow throughout the Lake Simcoe watershed. The ground remains frozen and local rivers, streams and lakes may be partially covered in ice. With warmer weather comes melting snow and potential rain, which will contribute to higher water levels and increased velocities in local watercourses. As well, slippery and unstable streambanks and extremely cold-water temperatures can also lead to hazardous conditions close to bodies of water.

Be safe this spring and remember the following tips:

Keep family and pets away from the edges of all bodies of water.

Avoid all recreational activities in or around water, especially near ice jams or ice-covered watercourses and water bodies.

Do not attempt to walk on ice-covered water bodies or drive through flooded roads or fast-moving water.

If you live close to the water, move objects such as chairs or benches away from the water's edge to avoid losing them during potential spring high water.

Avoid walking close to/across river banks and ice-covered water to prevent falling through. River banks can become unstable in the spring due to snowmelt and erosion.

Rescuing another person or a pet from icy water is dangerous. If you see

anyone that has fallen through the ice
call 911 for help immediately.

For more information, contact your
local conservation authority.

Lake Simcoe Region Conservation
Authority, 905-895-1281

Toronto and Region Conservation
Authority, 416-661-6514

Conservation Halton, 905-336-1158

Credit Valley Conservation, 905-670-
1615

Central Lake Ontario Conservation
Authority, 905-579-0411

Ganaraska Region Conservation
Authority, 905-885-8173

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation
Authority, 705-424-1479

Kawartha Conservation, 705-328-
2271

It is the mission of Lake Simcoe
Region Conservation Authority to
collaborate to protect and restore the
Lake Simcoe watershed with
innovative research, policy and action.

Conservation authority provides safety tips as ice melts

Organization urges people to stay away from edges of waterways

March 9, 2023

Collingwood Today



File photo: Image supplied by Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

NEWS RELEASE
LAKE SIMCOE REGION
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority is reminding residents of the dangers that exist near bodies of water, particularly around this time of year, and urges people to keep family and pets away from the edges of all waterways.

Spring is quickly approaching and with warmer temperatures, people look forward to getting outdoors. Warmer temperatures, however, also usually bring rain, melting snow and shifting ice, which can contribute to higher, faster-flowing water in watercourses. There is still a significant amount of snow throughout the Lake Simcoe watershed. The ground remains frozen

and local rivers, streams and lakes may be partially covered in ice. With warmer weather comes melting snow and potential rain, which will contribute to higher water levels and increased velocities in local watercourses. As well, slippery and unstable streambanks and extremely cold-water temperatures can also lead to hazardous conditions close to bodies of water.

Be safe this spring and remember the following tips:

- Keep family and pets away from the edges of all bodies of water.
- Avoid all recreational activities in or around water, especially near ice jams or ice-covered watercourses and water bodies.
- Do not attempt to walk on ice-covered water bodies or drive through flooded roads or fast-moving water.
- If you live close to the water, move objects such as chairs or benches away from the water's edge to avoid losing them during potential spring high water.
- Avoid walking close to/across river banks and ice-covered water to prevent falling through. River banks can become unstable in the spring due to snowmelt and erosion.
- Rescuing another person or a pet from icy water is dangerous. If you see anyone that has fallen through the ice call 911 for help immediately.

For more information, contact your local conservation authority.

- Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, 905-895-1281
- Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, 416-661-6514
- Conservation Halton, 905-336-1158
- Credit Valley Conservation, 905-670-1615
- Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority, 905-579-0411
- Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority, 905-885-8173
- Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority, 705-424-1479
- Kawartha Conservation, 705-328-2271

It is the mission of Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority to collaborate to protect and restore the Lake Simcoe watershed with innovative research, policy and action.

NVCA looking for volunteers for Spring Tonic Festival

March 9, 2023 by Brian Lockhart

New Tecumseth Times

The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority and the Rotary Club of Barrie are looking for volunteers for the Spring Tonic Maple Syrup Festival that will be taking place at the beginning of April.

This is an opportunity for high school students to earn some volunteer hours.

The festival is an annual event that has been held for over three decades and celebrates an important Canadian tradition – maple syrup.

Every year, the festival offers many activities like horse-drawn wagon rides, petting exotic animals, and learning outdoor skills with cadets. This year there are two new activities – dog performance and a native reptile and amphibian display.

Volunteers play a large part in the success of the festival. All proceeds from the event go towards the community and the maintenance of NVCA's conservation areas.

The festival is looking for volunteers to help with showing visitors how maple syrup is made, interactive tree-tapping demonstrations, collecting tickets for horse-drawn wagon rides, and button making.

A brief orientation will be provided for volunteers at the beginning of each shift, and lunch will be provided for volunteers working for a full day.

The festival takes place on April 1 and 2, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Volunteers can sign up for a full day or half day.

A morning shift runs from 8:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., and the afternoon shift is 12:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. A full day shift goes from 8:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

If you are interested in volunteering, e-mail Kyra Howes at: khowes@nvca.on.ca, or call at 705-424-1479 ext. 259.

LIST: Things to do with your kids this March break in New Tecumseth, Essa

March 10, 2023 by Brad Pritchard

Alliston Herald



March break is almost upon us. If you're looking for some fun stuff to do with the kids, here's an overview of some of the programs and events offered in South Simcoe.

March break Camp Tiffin

This weeklong camp is led by the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority's environmental educators and is for kids aged five to 12. Kids will learn how they are connected to and rely on the environment at the 300-plus acre Tiffin Centre for Conservation, located at [8195 8th Line, Utopia](#).

For more information, visit nvca.on.ca/events-education/events

New Tecumseth Public Library

[Alliston](#), [Beeton](#) and [Tottenham](#) branches

The library is offering a variety of programs throughout March break. Some of the programs are drop-in, and some require registration. Events

include Lively Tales, Zen and Doodle, Game On, Dirt Happy and Lego Builders and Get Artsy.

To register or see what's offered, visit ntpl.ca/for-kids/kids-programs-events/

Skating and Stories

Angus and Thornton arenas

Essa Township and council is holding two Skating and Stories sessions during March break.

The Thornton session takes place Monday, March 13 from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the [arena located at 246 Barrie St](#). There will also be pizza from [Ref's Pizza](#) available.

The session at the [Angus Arena](#) will be held Tuesday, March 14 from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m., but the session is currently full.

Free family skating in New Tecumseth

New Tecumseth council is also offering free public skating sessions.

The first one takes place March 11 at the [Beeton Memorial Arena](#) from 3 p.m. to 4:50 p.m.

The second one takes place March 13 at the [New Tecumseth Recreation Centre](#) from 3 p.m. to 4:50 p.m.

The third one will take place March 14 at the [Tottenham Community and Fitness Centre](#) from 5 p.m. to 6:50 p.m.

There will also be face painting and balloons.

NVCA warns banks near watercourses: slippery when wet

March 10, 2023 by Cheryl Browne

CTV News Barrie



Risk of flooding amid spring melt

The slippery banks of waterways during spring melt are unavoidable.

As we wait for the warmer weather to arrive, the inevitable melting of ice and snow makes for treacherous conditions around waterways, ditches, ponds and lakes this time of year.

The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) warns the onset of spring will cause the breakup of ice along watercourses and lakes as well as high stream flows. These hazardous conditions can cause life-threatening injuries if a person falls into extremely cold water.

Conservation authorities across the region remind residents to keep family and pets away from the edge of streams, rivers, ponds and lakes at this time of year. Anglers, canoeists, hikers, hunters and other recreational users must be aware of the dangerous conditions that could pose a risk to personal safety.

The [NVCA](#) advises:

- Keep family and pets away from the edges of all bodies of water.
- Avoid all recreational activities in or around water, especially near ice jams or ice-covered watercourses and waterbodies—including municipally managed stormwater ponds.
- Do not attempt to walk on ice-covered waterbodies or drive through flooded roads or fast-moving water.
- If you live close to the water, move objects such as chairs or benches away from the water's edge to avoid losing them during potential spring high water.
- Avoid walking close to and across riverbanks and ice-covered water to prevent falling through.

The NVCA will continue to monitor waterways and issue flood messages as conditions warrant.

NVCA warns banks near watercourses: slippery when wet

March 10, 2023 by Cheryl Browne

iHeart Radio



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