



# Board Meeting Highlights

April 24, 2020

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- a) CAO Walters was pleased to advise that the Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation received a grant from the RBC Nature Grant for the Nature Centre operation of education programs in the amount of \$210,000 over 3 years, as well as a TD Friends of the Environment grant of \$4,500 for the Therapy in the Woods Program;
- b) CAO Walters advised that the Annual Conservation dinner scheduled for June 10<sup>th</sup> has been rescheduled to September 23<sup>rd</sup>;
- c) CAO Walters advised that the Dalt Hicks Invitational Golf Tournament is currently scheduled for July 15<sup>th</sup>; this date is being held as we monitor the situation and may change to early September.

## **PRESENTATIONS:**

### **a) Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority 2019 Audited Financial Statements**

Mr. Adam Delle Cese of BDO Canada LLP provided the Board with a high-level overview of LSRCA's draft 2019 audited financial statements and the audit process and findings, noting that for the year ended December 31, 2019 the statement of operations and statement of financial position present fairly and are both in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards. He noted it was a clean audit and no issues were identified under internal controls. He referenced a new note for this year related to COVID-19, which is consistent for all financial statements being issued since the pandemic was declared.

### **b) Alcona Flood Relief Project - Preferred Solution**

Watershed Restoration Services Engineer, Bhavika Patel, prepared a presentation on the Alcona Flood Relief Project. Due to technical difficulties, CAO Walters delivered the presentation, noting this project was a partnership between LSRCA and the Town of Innisfil, with funding through the Province of Ontario through the National Disaster Mitigation Program, and Greenland Consultants also contributed towards the project. The project objective was to develop an engineering design solution to reduce flooding by maximizing green infrastructure to enhance water quality and infiltration before discharge to the lake. The final solution is to enhance an existing wetland. As part of the environmental assessment, three areas for flood reduction were looked at, including natural environmental impacts, social/cultural impacts and economic impacts. The area in question is quite low with no defined outlet to the lake, causing flooding in the springtime. Two viable options found were i) a conveyance option to upgrade the Belle Aire Creek channel and culverts and ii) the storage and bypass option, where more water can be stored by putting up a berm outside the wetland facility, whereby water could be stored for a longer period of time. The preferred solution is a combination of these two options plus land cost for a total cost of \$10M solution, which would alleviate flowing the in Alcona area. This

project provides an excellent opportunity for the use of green infrastructure. To view this presentation, please click this link: [South Alcona Flood Relief Project](#)

## **CORRESPONDENCE AND STAFF REPORTS:**

### Correspondence

a) The Board received the Town of Innisfil Council resolution of March 11, 2020 regarding the continuation of programs and services by Conservation Authorities.

### COVID -19 Updates

The Board received Staff Report No. 21-20-BOD, prepared by Chief Administrative Officer, Mike Walters, which updated the Board regarding LSRCA's business continuity and operations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Appointment of Enforcement Officer(s) under the Conservation Authorities Act

The Board approved Staff Report No. 22-20-BOD, prepared by Acting Director, Regulations, Ashlea Brown, which recommended the appointment of Mr. Matthew Brown and Mrs. Ashlea Brown as Enforcement Officers for the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority per Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act.

### LSRCA Watershed Development Guidelines Proposed Amendments

The Board approved Staff Report No. 23-20-BOD, prepared by General Manager, Planning & Development and Watershed Restoration Services, Rob Baldwin, which recommended changes to the Shoreline Section of the Watershed Development Guidelines effective June 1, 2020.

### 2020 Conservation Awards Program

The Board supported Staff Report No. 24-20-BOD, prepared by Director, Communications & Community Engagement, Kristen Yemm, which recommended the cancellation of this year's Conservation Awards Ceremony based on impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Thornton Bales Conservation Area Management Plan

The Board approved Staff Report No. 25-20-BOD, prepared by Land Management Technician, Lauren Grzywniak, regarding the Thornton Bales Conservation Area Management Plan and associated Business Plan and staff's recommended to continue to pursue funding and in-kind support to implement the recommendations of the Management Plan.

### Update regarding the Alcona NDMP Flood Relief Class EA

The Board received Staff Report No. 26-20-BOD, prepared by Chief Administrative Officer, Mike Walters, which provided the Board with an update on the Alcona NDMP Flood Relief Class EA.

For more information or to see the full agenda package, please click the link below for LSRCA's Board of Directors' webpage: <https://www.lsrca.on.ca/Pages/Board-Meetings.aspx>