

**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

**FULL AUTHORITY**

**WELLAND**

**AGENDA**

**AUGUST 15, 2007 – 7:00 p.m.**

**ROLL CALL**

**DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

**BUSINESS:**

**(1) MINUTES**

**(a) FULL AUTHORITY MEETING – JUNE 27, 2007**

Attached are the Minutes of the Full Authority meeting held June 27, 2007.

**(b) BALL'S FALLS HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING – AUGUST 1, 2007**

Attached are the Minutes of the Ball's Falls Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting held August 1, 2007.

**(2) BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

**(3) CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

**(4) GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

**(5) ACCOUNTS - JUNE, 2007 – REPORT NO. 59-07**

Attached is Staff Report No. 59-07 outlining the list of accounts for June, 2007.

**(6) ACCOUNTS - JULY, 2007 – REPORT NO.60-07**

Attached is Staff Report No. 60-07 outlining the list of accounts for July, 2007.

**(7) CURRENT AND CAPITAL BUDGETS – STATUS TO JUNE 30 - REPORT NO. 61-07**

Attached is Staff Report No. 61-07 together with a copies of the Current and Capital Budgets.

**(8) 2008 BUDGET SCHEDULE - REPORT NO. 62-07**

Attached is Staff Report No. 62-07 regarding the 2008 budget schedule.

(9) **AMENDMENT TO ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND PROCEDURES - REPORT NO. 63-07**

Attached is Report No.63-07 regarding this matter.

(10) **PROPOSED POLICY – EXISTING LOTS OF RECORD (WETLANDS) REPORT NO. 64-07**

Attached is Staff Report No. 64-07 regarding this matter.

(11) **NIAGARA WATER STRATEGY 2006 ANNUAL REPORT – REPORT NO. 65-07**

Attached is Staff Report No. 65-07 together with a copy of the annual report.

(12) **PROJECT STATUS REPORT – REPORT NO. 66-07**

Attached is Staff Report No. 66-07 outlining the status of Authority projects.

(13) **OTHER BUSINESS**

(14) **IN-CAMERA**

**VIOLATION AND COMPLAINT STATUS REPORT – REPORT NO. CR-07-07**

Attached is confidential Report No. CR-07-07 regarding this matter.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

**WELLAND**

**JUNE 27, 2007**

**7:00 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** B. Baty (Vice-Chairman)  
G. Burroughs  
B. Butters  
T. Dalimonte  
C. D'Angelo  
D. DiFruscio  
A. Fevez  
B. Greenwood  
B. Heit  
N. Johnson  
D. Martin

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** D. Ransom, Chairman (with regrets)  
B. Bentley (with regrets)  
D. Goulbourne (with regrets)  
B. Henderson (with regrets)

**STAFF PRESENT:** A.L. Burt, General Manager  
L. Sawatzky, Recording Secretary  
T. McDougall, Executive Director Conservation Foundation  
M. Stack, Director Communications  
T. D'Amario, Director, Water Management  
D. Baker, Director, Land Management

**BUSINESS:**

The Chairman was unavailable for the meeting, therefore the Vice-Chairman assumed the chair and called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. He then welcomed everyone in attendance and requested that if anyone had a conflict of interest to declare it. Brian Heit declared a conflict with any items that included Telus or Talk Wireless.

**MINUTES**

**(a) FULL AUTHORITY MEETING – MAY 18, 2007**

The following resolution was presented.

**FA-77-07**

**MOVED BY:** B. Greenwood

**SECONDED BY:** B. Heit

**THAT:** the Minutes of the Full Authority meeting held May 16, 2007, be received and approved as printed.

**"CARRIED"**

(b) **BALL'S FALLS HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING – JUNE 6, 2007**

**FA-78-07**

**MOVED BY:** G. Burroughs

**SECONDED BY:** B. Greenwood

**THAT:** the Minutes of the Ball's Falls Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held May 16, 2007, be received and approved as printed.

**"CARRIED"**

(2) **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

(3) **CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

The Vice-Chairman thanked the Authority for the change in the meeting date noting there had been a conflict with a Regional Council meeting that had been held on the Authority's regularly scheduled date.

The Vice-Chairman noted that he attended in Toronto at a friends of the Greenbelt Foundation function for Bill Davis former Premier of Ontario. He indicated that there were some key leaders, both past and present there and enjoyed being a part of the celebration.

The Vice-Chairman advised that the Ball's Falls Heritage Committee toured the construction site of the Ball's Falls Centre at their last meeting. He noted it was nice to see the actual Centre rather than just seeing pictures and renderings.

The Vice-Chairman indicated that the Source Water Protection Act is still waiting for the Government approval.

(4) **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

The General Manager advised that final copies of the Water Quality Report are available with the minor amendments made. He noted that this report has been sent to the area municipalities, Region of Niagara, the public health departments within our jurisdiction, MNR, MOE, the MP's and MPP's.

The General Manager noted that on June 1<sup>st</sup> Ontario Power Generation presented a cheque to the Authority for \$3 million toward the Welland River Restoration. In attendance at the event were Welland Mayor Damian Goulbourne, Niagara Falls Mayor Ted Salci, Pelham Mayor Dave Augustine and senior staff of OPG.

A question was raised as to when the fish tagging at Merrit Island was being done this year. Mary Stack, Director, Communications advised it was being held on July 7<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with a fish derby held by the City of Welland. She also noted this program is beneficial in tracking fish movement in the system.

(5) **ACCOUNTS – MAY, 2007 – REPORT NO. 46-07**

The following resolution was presented.

**FA-79-07**

**MOVED BY:** T. Dalimonte

**SECONDED BY:** C. D'Angelo

**THAT:** The list of accounts for the month of May 2007, in the amount of \$851,128.99 be received and approved.

**"CARRIED"**

(6) **CONSERVATION ONTARIO – 2006 ANNUAL REPORT - REPORT NO. 47-07**

The following resolution was presented.

**FA-80-07**

**MOVED BY:** C. D'Angelo

**SECONDED BY:** M. DiFruscio

**THAT:** the 2006 Annual report of Conservation Ontario be received for information.

**"CARRIED"**

(7) **HEALTH AND SAFETY PROGRAM – REPORT NO. 48-07**

The General Manager outlined this report and responded to questions. The following resolution was presented.

**FA-81-07**

**MOVED BY:** M. DiFruscio

**SECONDED BY:** G. Burroughs

**THAT:** the Report No. 48-07 regarding the Health and Safety Program be received; and

That the Health and Safety Policy Statement for the Conservation Authority dated June 20, 2007 be adopted; and

That copies be posted in all work places and a copy forwarded to all employees.

**"CARRIED"**

(8) **2006 NIAGARA WATERSHED REPORT CARD – REPORT NO. 49-07**

The General Manager outlined the report and responded to questions, after which, the following resolution was presented.

**FA-82-07**

**MOVED BY:** T. Dalimonte

**SECONDED BY:** C. D'Angelo

**THAT:** Report No. 49– 07 regarding the 2006 Niagara Watershed Report Card be received for information purposes

**"CARRIED"**

**(9) NIAGARA PLANNING MOU – REPORT NO. 50-07**

The Director, Water Management outlined the staff report. The Vice-Chairman added additional comments noting the significance of this document. After responding to questions, the following resolution was presented.

**FA-83-07**

**MOVED BY:** B. Heit

**SECONDED BY:** A. Fevez

**THAT:** Report No. 50–07 regarding the Niagara Planning MOU be received; and

That the MOU be endorsed subject to satisfactory resolution of related staffing and cost implications to the Conservation Authority.

**"CARRIED"**

**(10) GREAT LAKES WATER QUALITY AGREEMENT REVIEW — REPORT NO. 51-07**

The Director, Water Management provided a brief outline of this report. The following resolution was then presented.

**FA-84-07**

**MOVED BY:** T. Dalimonte

**SECONDED BY:** G. Burroughs

**THAT:** Report NO. 51-07 regarding the 2006 Water Quality Report be received.

**"CARRIED"**

**(11) NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE CREEKS FLOODPLAIN MAPPING - REPORT NO. 52-07**

The Director, Water Management outlined the staff report and noted that all watercourses in Niagara-on-the-Lake have been mapped. The following resolution was presented.

**FA-85-07**

**MOVED BY:** B. Greenwood

**SECONDED BY:** B. Butters

**THAT:** Report No. 52-07 regarding the Niagara-on-the-Lake Floodplain Mapping be received and the mapping approved.

**"CARRIED"**

(12) **ENFORCEMENT OFFICER APPOINTMENTS – O. REG. 123/90 - REPORT NO. 53-07**

The Director, Land Management outlined the report, after which the following resolution was presented.

**FA-86-07**

**MOVED BY:** B. Greenwood

**SECONDED BY:** A. Fevez

**THAT:** Report No. 53-07 regarding Enforcement Officer Appointments be received, and

That the individuals listed be appointed as Provincial Offences Officers under Ontario Regulation 123/90

**“CARRIED”**

(13) **ONTARIO MUNICIPAL BOARD HEARING – REEB QUARRY – REPORT NO. 54-07**

The Director, Land Management outlined this report in detail and the General Manager provided further information. The following resolution was then presented.

**FA-87-07**

**MOVED BY:** G. Burroughs

**SECONDED BY:** B. Heit

**THAT:** Report No. 54-07 regarding the Ontario Municipal Board Hearing – Reeb Quarry, be received for information purposes.

**“CARRIED”**

(14) **PROJECT STATUS REPORT – REPORT NO. 55-07**

The following resolution was presented.

**FA-88-07**

**MOVED BY:** M. DiFruscio

**SECONDED BY:** C. D'Angelo

**THAT:** Report No. 55-07, outlining the status of Authority projects be received for information.

**“CARRIED”**

(15) **NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CANADA – PHILLIPS ACQUISITION – REPORT NO. 56-07**

The Director, Land Management outlined the staff report and responded to questions, after which the following resolution was presented.



**FA-89-07**

**MOVED BY:** A. Fevez

**SECONDED BY:** C. D'Angelo

**THAT:** Report No. 56-07 regarding the Nature Conservancy of Canada – Phillips Acquisition be received; and

That staff be authorized to notify the Nature Conservancy of Canada that the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority will accept title to the property; and further

That staff be authorized to sign the landholding agreement with the Nature Conservancy of Canada for the Phillips Property.

**“CARRIED”**

**(16) FORT ERIE CREEKS FLOODPLAIN MAPPING – REPORT NO. 57-07**

The Director, Water Management outlined the staff report and responded to questions. The General Manager provided additional comments and responded to questions. The following resolution was then presented.

**FA-90-07**

**MOVED BY:** N. Johnson

**SECONDED BY:** G. Burroughs

**THAT:** Report No. 57-07 regarding the Fort Erie Creeks Floodplain Mapping be received and the mapping approved.

**“CARRIED”**

**(18) QUINTE CONSERVATION – PESTICIDE POLICY – REPORT NO. 58-07**

The General Manager outlined the staff report and responded to questions after which a lengthy discussion took place. An amendment to the original motion was put forth as follows:

**FA-91-07**

**MOVED BY:** B. Butters

**SECONDED BY:** A. Fevez

**THAT:** the words “and supported” be added to the original motion.

**“DEFEATED”**

The original motion was then presented.

**FA-92-07**

**MOVED BY:** M. DiFruscio

**SECONDED BY:** C. D'Angelo

**THAT:** Report No. 58-07 regarding the Quinte Conservation – Pesticide Policy and the June 15, 2007 correspondence from the Quinte Conservation be

received.

**“CARRIED”**

(17) **OTHER BUSINESS**

Gary Burroughs asked if the Conservation Authority has any plans to spray for gypsy moth which are becoming a problem in this area. The General Manager advised that we are not planning to do anything at this time.

Gary Burroughs asked if the Authority does water testing for heavy metals in our water systems. The Director, Water Management responded that we do not, however, the General Manager advised that a report will be brought to a future meeting regarding this. Carmen D'Angelo advised that we could reference the Environmental Commission's report on Municipal Treatment Plants.

Andy Fevez requested an update on the dog situation at Woodend Conservation Area. The General Manager advised that although an attempt was made to get the dog owners together, it was not possible to do so, however, the problems seemed to have diminished.

(18) **IN-CAMERA - VIOLATION AND COMPLAINT STATUS REPORT – REPORT NO. CR-05-07**

In accordance with Authority policy, the following resolutions were presented.

**FA-93-07**

**MOVED BY:** G. Burroughs  
**SECONDED BY:** B. Heit  
**THAT:** this meeting do now move in-camera.

**Received at 8:27 p.m. "CARRIED"**

**FA-94-07**

**MOVED BY:** B. Heit  
**SECONDED BY:** B. Butters  
**THAT:** this meeting do now move back into open session.

**Received at 8:32 p.m. "CARRIED"**

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the following resolution was presented.

**FA-95-07**

**MOVED BY:** B. Greenwood

**SECONDED BY:** A. Fevez  
**THAT:** this meeting do now adjourn.

**Received at 8:32 p.m.**

**“CARRIED”**

**"L. Sawatzky, Recording Secretary**

**B. Baty, Vice-Chairman"**



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**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**  
**BALL'S FALLS HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Welland**

**August 1, 2007**

**3:00 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:** M. Hunter  
B. Baty  
J. Mastroianni  
M. Holman  
L. Holmes  
E. Mitchinson

**Staff Present:** D. Baker, Director, Land Management  
C. Hayward, Curator

**Regrets:** D. Ransom  
A. Petrie  
F. High  
A. Burt, General Manager/Secretary Treasurer

**BUSINESS:**

1) **Call to Order**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

2) **Minutes of Last Meeting – June 6, 2007**

There being no errors or omissions the following resolution was presented.

**MOVED BY:** Brian Baty

**SECONDED BY:** Ellen Mitchinson

**THAT:** the minutes of the last meeting held June 6, 2007 be approved.

**"CARRIED"**

3) **Business Arising From Minutes**

The Curator advised that the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration confirmed the Authority's nomination for Marion Holman for the province of Ontario's 2007 Senior Achievement Awards. They indicated that the results of the Selection Committee would

be known later this year, that recipients would be notified directly and that after the presentation ceremony, all nominators would receive a news release announcing the names of the 2007 recipients.

4) **Ball's Falls Exhibit Design Project- Report No. HC-08-07**

The Director Land Management presented the computer model of the Gallery prepared by Mystus Exhibits. A discussion followed and staff provided additional information on the layout of the gallery and the various exhibits.

**The following resolution was presented.**

MOVED BY: **John Mastroianni**  
SECONDED BY: Linda Holmes  
THAT: Report NO. HC-08-07 on the Ball's Falls Exhibit Design Project be received for information purposes.

**"CARRIED"**

5) **Centre for Conservation Building Project**

Staff provided a power point presentation to update members on the progress of the facility construction. Photos highlighted the sequence of activity that has taken place since the members toured the site in June.

6) **Mona Joint Emergency Assistance Agreement – Report No. HC-09-07**

Staff provided an overview of the report previously circulated and responded to questions regarding the draft document. The Curator noted that several museum boards including Grimsby, Jordan and St. Catharines had approved the agreement in principle, pending final approval by the various governing bodies where appropriate. The members concurred that this type of co-operative agreement would be beneficial.

**The following resolution was presented.**

MOVED BY: **Ellen Mitchinson**  
SECONDED BY: Linda Holmes  
THAT: Report NO. HC-09-07 regarding the MONA Joint Emergency Assistance Agreement be received and that the "Agreement between Members of the Museums of Niagara Association (MONA) for Emergency Assistance" be approved in principle.

**"CARRIED"**

7) **Status Report – Report No. HC-10-07**

The Curator indicated that it has been a busy summer on site with the new programs and workshops in addition to on-going programs, and that the contributions of the many volunteers working with staff whether in education programs, gardening and public demonstrations have been instrumental in achieving this level of programming.

**MOVED BY:** John Mastroianni  
**SECONDED BY:** Brian Baty  
**THAT:** Report No. HC-10-07 on the status of Ball's Falls Conservation Area projects be received for information.

**"CARRIED"**

8) **Other Business**

There was no other business.

9) **Adjournment**

**MOVED BY:** Marion Holman

**SECONDED BY:** Linda Holmes

**THAT:** this meeting do now adjourn.  
Received at 3:55 p.m.

**"CARRIED"**

C. Hayward, Curator

Mike Hunter, Chair



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**TO: Chairman and Members of the Authority**

**DATE: January 11, 2019**

**RE: Accounts June 2007 - Report No. 59-07**

Attached is the list of accounts for the month of June 2007 in the amount of \$901,949.07.

**Recommendation:**

**The list of accounts for the month of June, 2007, in the amount of \$901,949.07 be received and approved.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew L. Burt, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer





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**TO: Chairman and Members of the Authority**

**DATE: January 11, 2019**

**RE: Accounts July 2007 - Report No. 60-07**

Attached is the list of accounts for the month of July 2007 in the amount of \$681,630.08.

**Recommendation:**

**The list of accounts for the month of July, 2007, in the amount of \$681,630.08 be received and approved.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew L. Burt, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer



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**TO: The Chairman and Members of the Authority**

**DATE: August 7, 2007**

**SUBJECT: Current & Capital Budgets - Status to June 30 – Report No. 61-07**

Attached for your review and information are the Current and Capital Budget Status reports for the period ending June 30, 2007 which reflects half of our fiscal year.

With regards to the Current Budget, the expenditures to June 30 are in keeping with the approved budget with the exception of legal and consulting costs incurred in the proposed Reeb Quarry OMB hearing which were noted at the May meeting. For the Vehicles and Equipment component, it is noted that the expenditures include the purchase of trucks and equipment as per the approved budget.

With regard to Current Budget revenues, it is noted that the funding from Ontario Power Generation (\$3 million) for the Welland River, which was not identified in the approved budget, is included in status report hence the apparent excess over the approved budget. While Conservation Area user revenues are generally in line with the approved budget, the revenues from planning services and regulations are not meeting our budget targets at this point.

With regards to the Capital Budget, no significant variances in expenditures or revenues are anticipated at this time.

A projection of year end program expenditures and revenues is being prepared by staff and will be submitted for the Board's consideration at the September meeting.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Report No. 61-07 regarding the Current & Capital Budgets - Status to June 30, be received for information.

Respectfully Submitted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Andrew L. Burt, General Manager/ Secretary-Treasurer



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**TO: The Chairman and Members of the Authority**

**DATE: August 1, 2007**

**SUBJECT: 2008 Budget Schedule – Report No. 62-07**

Traditionally the Conservation Authority has adopted its preliminary budget for the upcoming year at its September meeting so that this information can be submitted to the member municipalities in the early fall for inclusion in their budgets. For the 2008 budget, staff recommend a process and schedule similar to that followed in past years as outlined below:

1) Steering Committee

It is recommended that an Ad Hoc Budget Review Committee consisting of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and a minimum of 3 additional members be established to review the estimates developed by staff prior to submission to the Board.

2) Schedule

The recommended schedule for the 2008 budget is:

-By September 11 – Budget Review Committee to review the preliminary estimates and develop a recommendation for the Board's consideration – a meeting date will be arranged once the Committee is appointed.

-September 19 – Board to consider and approve the 2008 Preliminary Budget for formal submission to the member municipalities and Ministry of Natural Resources

-January, 2008 – subject to confirmation of provincial funding, municipal responses to the preliminary budget and the Authority's year end position, a proposed 2008 Budget will be developed

-February 20, 2008 –Board to adopt 2008 Current and Capital Budgets Budget and set levy

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Report No. 62-07 regarding the 2008 Budget Schedule be received and the recommendations contained therein approved; and

That the Ad Hoc Budget Review Committee be comprised of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and

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Respectfully Submitted By: Andrew L. Burt, General Manager/ Secretary-Treasurer



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**TO: The Chairman and Members of the Authority**

**DATE: July 10, 2007**

**SUBJECT: Amendment to Administrative Rules & Procedures– Report No. 63-07**

With the proclamation of the Clean Water Act by the Province on July 3, 2007, the definition of what constitutes a quorum in The Conservation Authorities Act was also amended.

Previously, Section 16(2) specified that “at any meeting of an authority, a quorum consist of one-third of the members appointed by the participating municipalities, except where there are fewer than six such members, in which case two such members constitute a quorum.”

Section 16(2) of The Conservation Authorities Act as amended now stipulates that “at any meeting of an authority, a quorum consist of **one-half** of the members appointed by the participating municipalities, except where there are fewer than six such members, in which case **three** such members constitute a quorum.”

Section 19 of the Authority’s Administrative Rules and Procedures currently reflects the former definition of a quorum and it is recommended that this be updated to be consistent with the Conservation Authorities Act as amended.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Report No. 63-07 regarding an Amendment to Administrative Rules & Procedures be received; and

That Section 19 of the Conservation Authority’s Administrative Rules and Procedures be amended to read “a quorum is defined as being one-half (1/2) of the members appointed by the participating municipalities, except where there are fewer than six (6) such members, in which case three (3) such members constitute a quorum.”

Respectfully Submitted By: \_\_\_\_\_

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General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer



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**TO: Chairman and Members of the Authority**

**DATE: January 11, 2019**

**RE: Proposed Policy - Existing Lots of Record (Wetlands)- Report No. 64-07**

Since the implementation of the Conservation Authority's new Regulations (O. Reg. 155/06) in May of 2006, staff has been dealing with several issues relating to the "wetlands" section of the legislation. In particular, there have been several instances involving "existing lots" located entirely within a wetland feature where building permits have been applied for by the property owner. These lots meet the current local zoning standards for construction, but development in the wetland feature is not permitted under the Authority's current Regulation, and building permits have consequently not been issued.

Staff recognize that various legislation (including our previous floodplain regulations) have often contained "grandfathering" provisions or other similar relief for existing situations that preceded the enactment of the law. In this light, and in an effort to alleviate undue hardship for the property owner in these specific situations, staff have considered several options to provide limited development opportunity within a regulated wetland with minimal impact to the wetland feature itself. A special policy section has been drafted which staff feel achieve this objective while still maintaining the spirit of wetland protection.

The appended new policy section 3.32(q) is proposed to be added to the existing (draft) Wetlands Policy Section 3.32 of our Policies, Procedures and Guidelines for the Administration of Ontario Regulation 155/06.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**That the Board approve the appended new policy section 3.32(q) "Existing lots of Record" to be included within the NPCA's Policies, Procedures and Guidelines for the Administration of Ontario Regulation 155/06.**

Prepared by: Paul Bond, Senior Watershed Planner

Respectfully Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew L. Burt, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

**3.32 (q) Existing Lots of Record**

**PREAMBLE:** The purpose of this section is to provide guidelines for Conservation Authority staff to evaluate development proposals on existing lots of record located within wetlands where development cannot occur outside of the regulated wetland feature. It is the intent of these policies to provide relief for owners of existing lots of record to enable development without compromising the overall goal of wetland protection and conservation of the wetland feature. This section shall not obligate the NPCA to grant approval for all “existing lot of record” proposals. Each proposal shall be reviewed according to the approved policy and criteria contained herein in combination with evaluation of the impact on the wetland feature.

For the purpose of this section, “**existing lot of record**” shall be defined as a legally conveyable parcel of land described in a deed or shown as a lot or block on a registered plan of subdivision, in either case existing before May 4, 2006 (the date of approval of Ontario Regulation 155/06).

**POLICIES:**

- i) This section shall apply to development in a wetland area on an existing lot of record only. The property owner shall provide legal proof of the lot status satisfactory to the NPCA. (ie: deed)
- ii) Where permits are to be granted under this section, the area to be developed shall be the lesser of the minimum required to develop as per the approved municipal zoning requirement **OR** 10% of the total area of wetland located on the property. In all cases, the building envelope shall not exceed 1.0ac/0.4ha.
- iii) An NPCA Permit shall be required for any development under this section in accordance with O. Reg. 155/06 and associated Policies. Conditions may be attached to any approval.
- iv) The proposed development shall comply with all local municipal and Provincial laws and regulations including Health Services. Prior to issuance of an NPCA Permit for development, the applicant shall provide satisfactory proof of such compliance in writing from all affected Agencies and Authorities. This submission shall form part of the NPCA Permit.
- v) It shall be a condition of all permits that no Planning Act approvals be necessary to enable the development. (some examples of Planning Act approvals would include minor variances, severances, zoning bylaw and official plan amendments, subdivision approvals)
- vi) The NPCA shall evaluate the building envelope in accordance with the approved “Policies, Procedures and Guidelines for the Administration of Ontario Regulation 155/06 and Land Use Planning Policy Document” (as amended).
- vii) The NPCA shall be satisfied that development will not have a significant impact on the hydrologic function of the wetland.
- viii) The proponent shall be responsible for the provision and cost of any studies, reports or supporting information required by the NPCA to justify and support such development.



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**TO: The Chairman and Members of the Authority**

**DATE: August 7, 2007**

**SUBJECT: Niagara Water Strategy – 2006 Annual Report– Report No. 65-07**

In 2001, the Region of Niagara in partnership with the Conservation Authority and the Ministry of the Environment initiated the preparation of the Niagara Water Quality Protection Strategy. Completed in October 2003, the Strategy is intended to provide for a coordinated and comprehensive approach to protecting our water resources. Since its completion, the Conservation Authority and its member municipalities (the Region of Niagara, City of Hamilton and Haldimand County) have undertaken or participated in a number of projects including the preparation of watershed plans, development of stormwater management policies, development of a watershed report card, integrated data collection, surface and groundwater monitoring and the rural water quality protection programs. The focus of these initiatives is a preventative approach to integrated watershed management which we believe will result in a more cost effective and efficient approach to providing clean and safe water resources.

The Region of Niagara has prepared an annual report on the progress of the Niagara Water Strategy to update all partners and the public on the progress being made in implementing the Strategy, a copy of which is included for your information.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Report No. 65-07 regarding the Niagara Water Strategy – 2006 Annual Report be received for information.

Respectfully Submitted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Andrew L. Burt, General Manager/ Secretary-Treasurer





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**TO: Chairman and Members of the Authority**

**DATE: January 11, 2019**

**RE: PROJECT STATUS REPORT - REPORT NO. 66-07**

## **WATER MANAGEMENT**

### **Drinking Water Source Protection (SP) Program under the Clean Water Act**

The Clean Water Act and first set of regulations were proclaimed by the province on July 3, 2007, and thus became enforceable law. The following regulations came into effect:

- Source Protection Areas and Regions
- Source Protection Committees
- Terms of Reference
- Time Limits
- Miscellaneous

The ad hoc source protection committee met on July 24 to review the SPC Chair applications that were received after placing advertisements in the local newspapers. The ad hoc committee recommendations are outlined in the Board Report that was sent to Board members at the end of July.

The required notices concerning SPC formation were placed in the local newspapers and on the source protection webpage before August 3, 2007.

#### **SP Technical Project Update**

NPCA obtained verbal approval for the Tier 1 Water Budget tasks and estimated costs. Source Protection staff have started preliminary work on the Tier 1 Water Budget. SP staff are also assisting Niagara Region in reviewing and commenting on the draft Intake Protection (IPZ) Study reports which were received in early July 2007.

### **Niagara River Remedial Action Plan**

#### **Contaminated sediments:**

Public Open Houses regarding the contaminated sediments at sites on Lyon's Creek were held June 26 (for Lyon's Creek West) and June 28 (for Lyon's Creek East). With the Technical Advisory Committee representatives and the consultant available to answer questions, each session included perusal of information boards and a formal presentation of the findings of the studies, followed by a Q&A period. The public were asked to provide their input on comment sheets with regards to the selection of the preferred remedial options.

Fourteen people attended the Lyon's Creek West session and there were few comments or concerns. At the Lyon's Creek East session, over 40 people attended and voiced many concerns. A number of comment sheets were completed and included many of the concerns raised.

Subsequent to the Lyon's Creek East Open House, a meeting was held with the Executive members of the Welland River Keepers to address concerns received from them in a letter. The consultant explained details of the methodology used in the risk assessments and MOE provided a written response. The meeting assisted the WRK to reach a decision on their preferred option for the Lyon's Creek East site.

The next steps will involve review of the comment sheets by the Technical Advisory Committee for each site, as well as the establishment of a public committee for the next stage of the Lyon's Creek East project.

### **Niagara Water Strategy (NWS):**

NPCA staff attended a meeting requested by DFA Infrastructure International Inc. with Environment Canada to discuss work plan priorities for the RAP and NWS, and coordinating and linking local municipalities through the Region for funding opportunities via the Great Lakes Sustainability Fund.

The next meeting of the NWS Water Advisory Group is expected to be held near the end of 2007.

#### **Stage 2 Update:**

The RAP Coordinating Committee met in June to review, discuss, and/or provide comments on the following documents:

- The Final Draft of The Technical Review Report - Technical Review of Impairments and Delisting Criteria June 2007 - is currently under internal review by Environment Canada and MOE.
- The draft Stage 2 Update Report remains under review and revision.
- The draft RAP Work Plan remains under review and revision.
- The draft Monitoring Plan is expected to be available by the end of August for review by the Coordinating Committee.

The Committee laid out a tentative schedule for public consultation (September) and establishment of a Work Plan Implementation Team (November). The Committee also agreed to the establishment of a RAP Science Liaison Committee.

### **International Liaison:**

The new three-year (2007 – 2010) Canada-Ontario Agreement (COA) has been signed and will be available this month. The new COA will continue to contribute to meeting Canada's obligations under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA). A new COA beyond 2010 is expected to reflect the outcomes of the recent GLWQA review.

## **Niagara River Toxics Management Plan (NRTMP):**

MOE has just announced that the next full report release and public meeting is to be held on October 24, 2007. Details to follow.

### **Upcoming conferences in 2007:**

November: A.D. Latornell Conference Symposium. Staff have been invited to provide a presentation on the Niagara River RAP.

### **Watershed Restoration**

Staff are working with residents of Creekside Senior Estates in the upper Four Mile Creek watershed to stabilize eroding and collapsing streambanks. A "work party" of residents will provide the majority of labour to place the river-stone and shrub cuttings. A series of rock-riffle type structures will also be installed upstream to manage stream velocities. The installation is scheduled for Aug 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Staff are working with a landowner to mitigate extensive bank erosion problem at the south end of Sixteen Mile Pond. The proposed work includes using 6" – 12" river-stone along with live shrub cuttings to protect the banks and to develop an extensively vegetated shoreline. Large focus of the project will be on areas where very large, old trees can be protected from the bank erosion.

Staff are moving forward with designs and permits for four wetland projects in the Fifteen, Sixteen and Forty Mile Creek watersheds. Excavations are expected to begin in September.

### **Niagara River RAP / Welland River Restoration**

Staff continues to visit with landowners to discuss future projects for the summer and fall of 2007. There has been high interest in Best Management Practices projects (including manure storages) wetland restoration and large scale reforestation.

Staff met with Ducks Unlimited in early July to discuss wetland projects for fall 2007 and spring 2008. Potential projects include the restoration of a wetland in the Lyons Creek watershed, a series of small wetland pockets along Union Marsh Drain (Ushers Creek) as well as two wetland plantings/enhancements in the Welland River watershed

### **Twenty Mile Creek Restoration**

Staff installed five Gypsy Moth pheromone traps at a 2 acre reforestation planting. The West Lincoln planting was completed in 2005 and has been heavily infested with Gypsy Moth. The site will be closely monitored in 2008 to evaluate the effectiveness of localized pheromone trapping.

Approximately 440 m of grassed waterway was constructed in West Lincoln. The project, in partnership with Greencover Canada is expected to dramatically reduced erosion and topsoil loss on the site.

## **Twelve Mile Creek Restoration**

Trees and shrubs were planted on 12 sites, including fragile land retirement, old field and headwater restoration/reforestation, as well as stream and wetland buffers. A “Butterfly Meadow” was installed in a site next to Shorthills Provincial Park, and the remaining prairie plantings will happen in the next few weeks.

Four sites totalling 4.8 acres were planted with trees and shrubs in the Lower Twelve Mile Creek valley, in partnership with OPG and Land Care Niagara. Additional restoration work will be carried out in partnership with the Green Committee (City of St. Catharines); including planting of larger stock in regenerating thickets to mimic natural succession, test plots seeded with species adapted to nutrient-poor spoil soils, and planting of wetland wildflowers adjacent to the trails.

Several Agricultural Best Management Practice projects are planned this year, including manure storages / composting, erosion stabilization, and various conservation farm practices. Our partnership with the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) has been extremely valuable in facilitating good outcomes on the landscape, with landowners able to reap full benefits of available funding.

A new approach for the elimination of nitrates, known as Dispersion Sandwich, is currently being implemented on two vineyard properties (Henry of Pelham Winery and Shorthills Vineyard). The projects target overland flow, and tile drain flow, respectively, with the goal of protecting the water quality of receiving streams. Baseline water quality data has been collected for one site to allow us to quantify the effectiveness of the technique. Both projects qualify for funding under the Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) and will receive Green Cover funding. Both these projects as well as the Grass Waterway in Twenty Mile Creek will help move Conservation Ontario forward in meeting their partnership obligations with respects to the delivery of the EFP Green Cover funding components.

## **One Mile Creek Restoration**

With the cooperation of the Town of NOTL, staff worked with members of the Friends of One Mile Creek and the NOTL Horticultural Society to complete a demonstration riparian planting using native plants. Ten volunteers prepped, planted and mulched the 4 meter by 8 meter planting in two hours. The demonstration site is located on Victoria St. near William St. and will be maintained by Friends of One Mile Creek volunteers.

A public meeting for the Lansdowne Pond Study was held on Monday June 18th from 7:00 – 9:00 pm at the NOTL Public Library. The purpose of the meeting was to review the concept plans and detailed estimates of construction costs for Lansdowne Pond.

The options will be discussed with the landowners in order to seek support to finalize a preferred plan.

## **Niagara-on-the-Lake Watershed Restoration**

In anticipation of the NOTL Watershed Plan being completed this fall, staff have been pursuing project opportunities in the watershed. Several projects have been discussed with interested landowners representing a variety of commodity groups. Potential projects include tree planting, riparian planting, stream restoration and drip irrigation (water conservation) projects.

## **ECO School Program**

In total 28 schools applied by the March 31<sup>st</sup> deadline to participate in the ECO School program. All schools participated in a project this year. The projects have all been completed with a variety of native wildflowers, grasses and shrubs being planted. Students learned about proper planting techniques, after care and project maintenance and monitoring. All varieties of plant species can be found in our Native Plant Guide, and each school will receive a copy for their reference collection. In addition take home information was provided for parents to review, and to help spread the word about the importance of increasing natural spaces and using native Niagara plants.

A small pamphlet containing program information is being discussed for production. This should assist with communicating program information to schools, teachers, parents and students. An annual report will be compiled listing all schools participating to date, photo gallery, monitoring results and lessons learned.

### **EC Brown Wetland Restoration Project**

The Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority in conjunction with several project partners is in the midst of an exciting project to revive a wetland located adjacent to the E.C. Brown Conservation Area. Bordering the Welland River near O'Reilly's Bridge in the Town of Pelham, the area is prone to flooding due to the low-lying heavy clay nature of the soil and was identified as a high priority area for wetland restoration. The restoration activities will significantly increase wetland coverage in the Welland River watershed.

The project includes excavation of the wetland area, construction of a water control structure to help maintain water levels, trail development with platforms overlooking the river, interpretive signage, and native wildflowers and grasses plantings. When completed, the project which commenced in early July will help filter runoff from adjacent land use activities, thus reducing sedimentation into the river. This will assist in water quality/clarity improvement; enhance the Welland River fisheries by providing desirable habitat for fish spawning activities such as northern pike and other aquatic species including turtles and frogs.

The Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority is pleased to be working with the many project partners including Ontario Power Generation, Ducks Unlimited, Ministry of Natural Resources, Ministry of the Environment, Environment Canada's Great Lakes Suitability Fund, Niagara Region, Niagara River Remedial Action Plan, Wetland Habitat Fund, Niagara Restoration Council, Niagara Community Foundation and Shell Environmental Fund.

### **GIS (Geographic Information Systems) / Information Management**

NAI - DRAFT ELC Community Series fabric development for the Haldimand County focus area is now complete. The Primary Site Hierarchy linking the tabular and spatial data remains under construction but has been halted temporarily due to pressing priorities in other business areas. Technical support for the project's tabular data management within the MNR ELC application continues.

SWP – Preliminary technical tasks in preparation of the MNR approved Tier 1 Water Budget work plan are underway. Completing the Authority's hydrography mapping across the watershed at the 1:2000 scale, serving as a new surface water inventory and the framework for a developing Hydrologic Information System, has become the top immediate priority. The clean up of tabular meteorological and hydrometric data serving as input to the water budget is also underway. Recent data acquisitions include the

2006 population census at the DA areas and historic **agricultural census data** extrapolated to population CCS areas. Draft delivery of the Surface Water Intake Protection Zones has also been received and compared against draft potential threats inventories.

Generic Regulations - Updates to the Authority's Flood Plain Mapping database have been completed with all of the studies recently passed through the Board for approval. It now contains over 2746 kilometres of regulatory flood lines across the watershed. Updates to the derivative Hazard, Approximate Regulation Limit, and Planning Screening layers are currently underway now. The entire Generic Regulations dataset is also currently being scoped for a future data improvement project that will implement a data model to address the maintenance aspect of this critical business information beyond its current limitations as an inventory.

Conservation Ontario Dam Inventory – GIS staff are nearing completion of the desktop portion of a dam inventory of all structures holding back 1 metre or more of water.

Corporate GIS - Implementation of the GIS Shared Services agreement with the Region of Niagara continues. Another batch of Authority data is currently being loaded into the enterprise environment. The beta version of the NPCA customized Niagara Atlas internal intranet mapping site was delivered by the Region and tested for a short period by select Authority staff. Final comments and change orders have delivered to Regional staff before official sign off and application launch which will be accompanied by a half day training session available and recommended for all staff. The generation of extensive metadata for all Authority published data holdings using the GeoSmart Niagara Metadata Standard and Index application continues.

GIS staff, along with Engineering met with a team from Ontario Power Generation in an introductory meeting to generally share experiences on the Authority's GIS implementation but also to specifically discuss how the GIS program efficiently supports the flood plain mapping process and several information management needs of the engineering department. The Authority offered to provide OPG with any data it is legally able to distribute in order to help their current efforts with modeling the Lower Twelve Mile Creek for a Probable Maximum Flood for a hypothetical dam failure at Decew. The meeting went well and may form the basis for future collaboration on common GIS, modelling, and spatial data issues.

### **Natural Heritage Areas Inventory Update**

Ecological Land Classification continues in the Port Colborne, Wainfleet, South Niagara Falls and Haldimand Areas. Staff have been very busy visiting more than 90 properties representing an area of more than 300 hectares or 740 acres. Several types of rare plants and plant communities have been found thus far, and more than 500 different plant species have been collected for the project.

The breakdown for the number of sites visited since the commencement of the 2007 field season including the site area is as follows:

South Niagara Falls:  
8 sites visited, representing 22 hectares/54 acres

Haldimand:  
13 sites visited, representing 87 hectares/214 acres

Port Colborne:  
24 sites visited, representing 45 hectares/111 acres

Wainfleet:  
48 sites visited, representing 175 hectares/432 acres

The project's consultants have also been very busy uncovering several rare and "new to niagara" dragonflies, damselflies and butterflies. The project's consultants have also observed a Pileated Woodpecker in Chippawa Creek Conservation Area. These birds were not known, until now, to inhabit this woodlot.

The number of landowners in Haldimand interested in participating in the NAI project continues to grow. To date we have received a 22% positive response to the letters. This positive response represents more than 1,300 hectares or 3,200 acres of natural area to be inventoried in Haldimand. The team's third field crew have begun their work assisting with the Crew leaders in South Niagara and Haldimand.

Staff are pleased to report that NPCF was successful on behalf of the NAI project in their application to The McLean Foundation. A \$5,000 grant was made to our foundation in support of the NAI project.

GIS staff have completed the community series mapping in the Haldimand. NAI Staff continue to work closely with the GIS staff in many areas of the project.

Staff attended the ELC certification course at the end of June.

### **Fifteen-Sixteen-Eighteen Mile Creeks Watershed Plan**

The Steering Committee for the Fifteen-Sixteen-Eighteen Mile Creeks Watershed Plan met on June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007. The purpose of this meeting was to introduce and explain the concept behind the Restoration Suitability Mapping used in creating the restoration strategy in the Watershed Plan as well as introduce myself as Jennifer's maternity leave replacement. In addition, a guest speaker from the Friends of Fort Erie's Creeks did a brief presentation on their restoration activities and successes to the Steering Committee. A draft copy of the *Watershed Characterization and Issues Identification* has been placed in the Vineland Branch of the Lincoln Public Library. It is available for public check-out and commenting until August 31, 2007.

### **South Niagara Falls Watershed Plan**

The Steering Committee for the South Niagara Falls Watershed Plan met June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007. The purpose of this meeting is to introduce and explain the concept behind the Restoration Suitability Mapping used in creating the restoration strategy in the Watershed Plan as well as introduce myself as Jennifer's maternity leave replacement. In addition, a guest speaker from the Friends of Fort Erie's Creeks did a brief presentation on their restoration activities and successes to the Steering Committee. A draft copy of the *Watershed Characterization and*

*Issues Identification* has been placed in the Chippawa Branch of the Niagara Falls Public Library. It is available for public check-out and commenting until August 31, 2007.

### **Lake Erie North Shore Watershed Plan**

A comprehensive work plan is underway for the Lake Erie North Shore Watershed Plan. The work plan includes outsourcing floodplain mapping and a Lake Erie Shoreline Study. Background data collection commenced at the end of June 2007. Water quality sampling is continuing for the remainder of the field season at approximately eight sites in the watershed.

### **Central Welland River Watershed Plan**

A comprehensive work plan is underway for the Central Welland River Watershed Plan. The work plan includes outsourcing floodplain mapping for several water courses in this watershed. Background data collection commenced at the end of June 2007.

### **Water Quality Program**

Routine monthly surface water quality monitoring is currently underway at 60 stations located throughout the NPCA watershed. Taxonomic identification of benthic invertebrate samples collected during the spring sampling season is currently underway and will continue throughout the summer. Stream temperature loggers were recently installed in tributaries of the upper Welland River and Twenty Mile Creek to determine if baseflow is supported by groundwater discharge in these areas – this is being done as part of a Source Water Protection initiative to confirm areas mapped as potential groundwater recharge areas. Data entry and database management are on-going as large quantities of water quality data are generated through various monitoring initiatives.

NPCA recently provided comments to the Ministry of the Environment regarding a proposed Certificate of Approval for stormwater management at Hamilton International Airport. NPCA comments identified a number of concerns, which include the need for more stringent water quality criteria than what is currently proposed for stormwater discharge to the upper Welland River.

Groundwater monitoring continues at all 15 Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network (PGMN) wells. The NPCA Water Well Decommissioning Program is now underway and application forms have been sent out to interested landowners.

### **Binbrook Reservoir – City of Hamilton (Glanbrook)**

#### **1) *Reservoir Water Levels***

The reservoir water levels for the last 30 days have generally fluctuated between 650.1 feet and 650.6 feet (for reference the dam holding level is 650.50 feet). NPCA staff continue to monitor the reservoir water levels daily.



## **100 Year Regulatory Floodplain Mapping**

### **1) Hunter's Drain – City of Niagara Falls**

The NPCA is presently undertaking the necessary calculations, field work, and map analysis to accurately determine the extent of the 100 year flood elevations for Hunter's Drain in the City of Niagara Falls.

### **2) Lyon's Creek and Tee Creek – City of Welland and Niagara Falls**

The NPCA is presently undertaking the necessary calculations, field work, and map analysis to accurately determine the extent of the 100 year flood elevations for Lyon's Creek and Tee Creek in the Cities of Welland and Niagara Falls.

## **Shriner's Creek – City of Niagara Falls**

The 2003 Shriner's Creek Study had recommended that the existing NPCA owned stormwater detention facility (known as Dyke B) located west of Kalar Road on the Shriner's Creek W5-4 Tributary be modified in order to improve water quality, attenuate flows, and provide year round base flow to the Shriner's Creek system. The NPCA has retained the firm of Totten Sims Hubicki in order to redesign the stormwater facility. A preliminary design is expected to be circulated to the NPCA in early September.

## **NPCA 'Regulation of Development, Interference with Wetlands, and Alteration to Shorelines and Watercourses' Permits**

The NPCA regulates construction around watercourses, wetlands, valley lands, shorelines, and floodplains. The NPCA has currently approved 37 permit applications for the 2007 calendar year.

## **Violation of the NPCA's 'Development, Interference with Wetlands, and Alteration to Shorelines and Watercourses' Regulations**

Please refer to the associated spreadsheet.

## **LAND MANAGEMENT DIVISION**

### **Ball's Falls Conservation Area**

The Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ), formerly Summer Career Placement (SCP) program has been re-assessed to ensure that the full minimum wage subsidy will be awarded for the projects, given that the NPCA has a non-profit number. This results in twice the amount of funding for the 2 heritage positions (14 weeks) at Ball's Falls and 1 position at both Long Beach and Chippawa (14 weeks) to offer visitor programming.

The "Boy's Afternoon Adventure" held on June 16<sup>th</sup> had 14 attendees and was well received by both Fathers and sons who attended on Fathers Day weekend.

Unfortunately the 'Rustic Willow Chair' workshop and the 'Bountiful Herbs' workshop did not receive sufficient registration this year and both programs were cancelled.

The Trailblazer's Summer Day Camp is underway. Registration is on par with last year, with many children signing up for additional weeks because they have enjoyed the experience. Efforts to attract other organizations offering day-camp excursions have been successful with more than 100 children slated to participate in the Trailblazer's "Mini-Adventures"(condensed programs). Participants to date include the Town of Lincoln Summer Adventure Camp and the Beamsville Day Care Centres.

Our volunteers continue to generously donate their time and skills. During July members of the Niagara Hand spinners and Weavers Guild have been on site demonstrating their skills. Lorraine Westhouse is working with staff to facilitate the set-up of the loom from Jordan Museum to Ball's Falls. Dane Dedrick and Leo Trigatt have been blacksmithing on scheduled Sundays. Ellen Mitchinson and Barb and Allen Large have worked every week during the heat of summer to make the grounds and heritage gardens look beautiful.

The re-pointing of the east end of the mill is scheduled for mid August. This will leave only the west wall to complete.

Arrangements continue to be finalized for the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Thanksgiving Festival.

### **Ball's Falls Centre for Conservation**

Over the past month building activity has increased tremendously and all trades are now mobilized on the site. The building shell and roof structure are nearing completion and the natural stone veneer has been installed on the exterior entrance pillars and walls. Mechanical and electrical trades are working on roughing in all their lines under the floor to prepare for pouring the concrete floor slab. Outside the building the parking lot is beginning to take shape and the mechanical trades have been hard at work installing the underground rainwater cisterns, septic chambers, hydrant line, and ground source heat pump connections. LEED compliance is being tracked by our consultants and the building commissioning items are being scoped and documented as the building systems progress. Staff are monitoring the work in progress and taking photographs for our reference and file.

The Exhibit Design project continues on schedule. Staff visited Mystus Exhibits' Toronto studio to view the prototypes for several of the interactive displays and to approve material samples for some of the displays.

### **Jordan Ellis Site**

Tree planting is scheduled for the fall to complete work on the property for Ontario Heritage Trust.

### **Chippawa Creek Conservation Area**

Camping attendance is on target. The warm, dry summer has resulted in good revenues, however it is having a negative impact on the water system. The hot weather has increased evaporation, changing the characteristics of the water in Dils Lake. The quality of the groundwater well which augments the lake is also changing.

The water quality is impacting the treatment system, clogging filters and increasing the demand for chlorine. In order to ensure safe water supply to the campground, municipally treated water is being trucked in to the cistern and distributed throughout the site.

The Regional Health unit agrees with these measures and is supporting the NPCA in resolving the treatment problems. Authority staff expect to have the problems resolved before the end of August.

Modifications to the landscape surrounding Dils Lake has resulted in a second consecutive year where the transfer of Canada Geese from Chippawa Creek Conservation Area was not required. Increased site activity and vegetative buffers are some factors helping to keep the goose population down.

### **Long Beach Conservation Area**

Long Beach is also enjoying a strong campground attendance in spite of having a portion of the swimming beach closed due to poor water quality. The beach on the east side of the point is in a sheltered bay, where water does not circulate. The beach on the west side of the point remains open.

The warm weather has resulted in algae blooms along the Lake Erie shoreline. The algae has migrated into the beach well intake for the water treatment plant. Staff are taking steps to clear the system and ensure a safe water supply for the campground. The NPCA has voluntarily posted the drinking water as an interim measure. The posting will be removed once we have received two consecutive satisfactory test results from our drinking water system.

### **Binbrook Conservation Area**

The hot weather has resulted in very good attendance at Binbrook. The Simcoe Day long weekend saw a new record for gate attendance. Boat rentals are very popular with visitors and there are now three youth groups using the park as a resource for summer day camps.

The splashpad is a big hit this summer with the public, and our staff have been working with our supplier and contractor to resolve all outstanding deficiencies and fine tune the system operation to meet our needs.

Plans have been prepared for a new fishing dock and the footing layout plans are out for quotation. A new floating dock has been designed for the boat launch area for boat rentals. The float components have arrived and staff are assembling the dock floats and decking for installation as soon as possible.

The Haldimand Boy Scouts will be celebrating the centennial of Scouting in Canada by hosting a scout troupe from England. They will be camping at Binbrook while visiting the Hamilton area. On Sunday, August 12<sup>th</sup> they will conduct a church service, attended by the Mayor of Haldimand, Toby Barrett MPP and Diane Findlay MP.

Staff assisted the Glanbrook Conservation Committee with monitoring of Wood Duck Boxes and Mallard Tubes at the Binbrook Conservation Area. Results show successful hatching of 93 wood ducks and 33 mallard ducks in 2007. These are additional birds which may not have found nesting areas elsewhere and add to the biodiversity of the area.

Monitoring of Binbrook's constructed pike spawning bed shows additional aquatic vegetation naturally regenerating the site. The habitat was further advanced with staff planting additional bulrush, burreed, water plaitain and arrowhead.

## **EC Brown - New Constructed Wetland Project**

Staff in the land department are continuing to assist the restoration team with the design, mapping, and planning of the restoration works for this year, in addition to reviewing the interpretive signs being produced out of house. The wetland excavation work is now completed and staff are working on plans for the remaining site items including a bridge over the pond, parking lot, walking trails, wood boardwalks, and wood lookout platforms.

## **Wainfleet Bog**

In January 2006, the NPCA received an order from the Ministry of Natural Resources Petroleum Section to plug an abandoned gas well at the Wainfleet Bog Conservation Area by August 2007. The NPCA completed the work in late July. Over the past 1 ½ years staff have been working with well experts to find the least expensive and environmentally friendliest method to plug the well. The work involved a 'bond log' to assess the past unrecorded work on the well and required plugging requirements. The old well was flushed of debris, and then plugged with concrete. No further work is required and the MNR order has been addressed.

## **Mud Lake Conservation Area**

The second full year of the three year water level management program is ongoing at Mud Lake CA. This work is being undertaken in conjunction with Ducks Unlimited. The lower water levels will help establish a saturated mud flat to increase a variety of plant growth. Provided new plants are established, the water manipulation will be completed in 2008. Hunting harvest reports from Mud Lake indicate that the lower water levels have resulted in increased waterfowl diversity. Such water level manipulation is completed every 10 years to mimic wetland pulses.

## **Dam Repairs – Virgil Conservation Area**

Staff completed repairs to the boards, damaged by vandals at the Virgil water control structure. The repairs were necessary to maintain the holding capacity of the reservoir, which is an integral part of the Niagara-on-the-Lake irrigation system.

## **NPCA Hunting Program**

Staff have received and issued an additional 28 hunting permits for 2007. To date 195 hunting permits have been issued. Of these, 38 permits are issued to individuals residing outside of our administrative area.

## **Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program**

Applications have been completed for the reduced property tax under the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP) for Ball's Falls, Chippawa, Long Beach, Stevensville, Willoughby; Binbrook, Binbrook Tract, Hedley Forest Conservation Areas. These properties are eligible for up to 75% tax reduction for the next 10 years 2008 – 2017. It encompasses forested areas outside of the Conservation Land Incentive Tax Program (CLTIP).

In keeping with the program requirements, forest management plans were endorsed by a registered forester. NPCA staff updated the plans for the Ball's Falls, Chippawa, Long Beach, Stevensville and Willoughby Plans. These were then reviewed and approved by a forestry consultant.

The NPCA has now reduced its' MFTIP areas from 11 to 8 Conservation Areas, with E.C. Brown, Humberstone Marsh and Virgil Conservation Areas being converted from MFTIP to CLTIP to receive a greater tax reduction (up to 100%).

### **Family Fishing Weekend**

July 7 through 9 was Ontario's promoted Family Fishing Weekend where Ontario residents could fish without a requiring a licence. The NPCA promoted both Chippawa Creek and Binbrook Conservation Areas as scheduled destinations for outdoor fishing opportunities. Approximately 50 children and 30 adult anglers visited Chippawa Creek and approximately 50 anglers attended Binbrook.

MNR supplied materials for children including temporary tattoos, fishing colour contest/ book and children fishing licenses for the event.

### **Campground Signage**

Staff have reviewed our signage needs for both campgrounds and are developing new sign templates. The templates have been drafted and are currently under internal review with our signage policies. Re-organization and numbering of some campsites may be conducted this fall, at which time the sign wording will be finalized for some of the signs. Temporary signs are in place until the permanent signs will be ready for installation.

## **COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

### **Niagara Children's Water Festival**

The 5<sup>th</sup> Niagara Children's Water Festival will take place at Ball's Falls the week of September 17-21. To date we have committed donations from partners and member municipalities and partners totaling \$15,500. In addition we will receive funding from MOE in the amount of \$3,500 for activity centers and volunteer recognition. In response to interest from watershed residents, a public day will take place on Sunday, September 16 from 11:00 to 4:00. A number of family activities are planned for this day. The region of Niagara will be using this opportunity to launch their "WaterSmart Niagara" program.

### **Binbrook Conservation Area**

A widespread promotional campaign geared to the Binbrook Conservation Area employing billboards and direct mailings in the Hamilton area is being undertaken to increase awareness of and visitation to the site.

## **A.D. Latornell Conservation Symposium**

This year's symposium will take place at the Nottawasaga Inn November 14-16<sup>th</sup>. The theme of the 14th annual A.D. Latornell Conservation Symposium is "*Your Watersheds, Our Great Lakes*". Delegates to this year's event will explore past efforts and future actions that are required. With the effects of climate change coming more to the forefront this year's symposium will help recognize the risks involved and discuss strategies that will improve the situation within the context of traditional resource management themes such as watershed management, natural heritage, stewardship, fisheries and others. There are 33 million people living and working in watersheds within the Great Lakes basin and what we do as individuals has a cumulative effect on the largest inland fresh water supply in the world. Several interesting speakers will be on hand.

## **Ball's Falls Thanksgiving Festival**

The 33<sup>rd</sup> annual festival will be held October 5 – 8<sup>th</sup>. This event is recognized as a Niagara Classic tradition. Members are encouraged to attend.

## **Source Water Protection**

With the proclamation of the Clean Water Act and its corresponding regulations staff has been working with Conservation Ontario and the MOE towards the committee formation. Advertisements have been published in the watershed papers and on the website inviting expressions of interest for membership on the committee. A designated source water protection website is being developed under the domain name [www.sourceprotection-niagara.ca](http://www.sourceprotection-niagara.ca)

## **NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION FOUNDATION**

### **Conservation Education Bursaries**

Staff met with members of the Fort Erie Conservation Women's Auxiliary to review this year's applications. It was determined that four students, two from Ridgeway and two from Fort Erie, will receive \$1,000 each to pursue their post-secondary education in a field related to conservation and resource management. Since this program began, 106 bursaries totaling \$105,600 have been awarded.

### **Rock 'N Ribs**

This event, featuring a rib dinner and private concert with renowned Canadian rock artist Kim Mitchell, will take place on September 15<sup>th</sup> at Harbour Estates Winery. Once again, the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Foundation will be given the opportunity to host a silent auction table at this event, with proceeds supporting the Centre for Conservation project at Ball's Falls. Over the past two years \$6,775 has been raised. Staff are currently working to secure items and Board members are asked to advise staff of any possible leads for silent auction items.

### **Thanksgiving Festival**

The Foundation will hold its annual raffle at this year's Thanksgiving Festival from October 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>. Prizes are currently in the process of being finalized. On behalf of the Ball's Falls Heritage Advisory Committee, Marion Holman has once again agreed to donate a handmade quilt as first prize. Black Creek Timber Framing has confirmed the donation of a handcrafted

item once again. A number of Thanksgiving Festival artisans have generously agreed to contribute their handcrafted items to be incorporated into gift baskets, as in the previous two years. In addition, the Foundation will also host the refreshment area, partnering with Harbour Estates Winery and Starbucks Coffee for this venture. Board members are asked to consider volunteering their time to help staff these areas and encourage others to assist where possible, and to confirm any commitments with staff.

**Recommendation:**

**Report No. 66-07 outlining the status of Authority projects be received for information.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

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Andrew L. Burt, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer