

NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

FULL AUTHORITY

WELLAND

AGENDA

OCTOBER 15, 2008 – 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

BUSINESS:

(1) MINUTES

(a) FULL AUTHORITY MEETING – SEPTEMBER 17, 2008

Attached are the Minutes of the Full Authority Meeting held September 17, 2008.

(b) TREE CONSERVATION BY-LAW COMMITTEE – SEPTEMBER 18, 2008

Attached are the Minutes of the Tree Conservation By-Law Committee held September 18, 2008.

(2) BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

(3) CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

(4) CAO'S REPORT

(5) BUDGET STATUS REPORT – REPORT NO. 71-08

Attached is Staff Report No. 71-08 together with the Current Budget Summary.

(6) APPOINTMENT OF ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS - REPORT NO. 72-08

Attached is Staff Report No. 72-08 regarding these appointments.

(7) BINBROOK RESERVOIR DOCK LICENCE AGREEMENT – REPORT NO. 73-08

Attached is Report No. 73-08 regarding this matter.

(8) 2007 CONSERVATION AUTHORITY STATISTICAL SURVEY - REPORT NO. 74-08

Attached is Staff Report No. 74-08 regarding this matter.

(9) PROJECT STATUS REPORT – REPORT NO. 75-08

Attached is Report No. 75-08 outlining the status of Authority projects.

(10) IN-CAMERA

- (a) 2008 Conservation Achievement Award of Merit – Report No. CR-09-08
- (b) Complaint and Violation Status Report – Report No. CR-10-08
- (c) Tree By-Law Status Report – Report No. CR-11-08

(11) OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
FULL AUTHORITY MEETING**

WELLAND

SEPTEMBER 17, 2008

7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

D. Ransom, (Chairman)
B. Baty (Vice-Chairman)
B. Bentley
B. Butters
T. Dalimonte
C. D'Angelo
D. DiFruscio
A. Fevez
B. Greenwood
B. Heit
B. Henderson
N. Johnson
B. Steckley

MEMBERS ABSENT:

G. Burroughs (with regrets)
D. Goulbourne (with regrets)

STAFF PRESENT:

T. D'Amario, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer
L. Sawatzky, Recording Secretary
D. Baker, Director, Land Management
J. Kukalis, Director, Water Management
M. Stack, Director Communications
T. McDougall, Executive Director Conservation Foundation

BUSINESS:

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m., welcomed everyone in attendance and then requested that if anyone had a conflict of interest to declare it. Brian Heit declared a conflict with respect to Telus or Talk Wireless.

(1) MINUTES - FULL AUTHORITY MEETING – AUGUST 20, 2008

There were no errors or omissions with respect to the minutes. The following resolution was presented.

FA-110-08

MOVED BY: N. Johnson

SECONDED BY: T. Dalimonte

THAT: the Minutes of the Full Authority meeting held August 20, 2008, be received and approved.

"CARRIED"

Authority Meeting - Minutes
September 17, 2008 – continued

(2) BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

(3) CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman indicated that the Biennial Tour which he and Mickey DiFruscio attended was very informative and appreciated the opportunity to be a part of it. He noted that part of the tour included a history of Sudbury and the many changes which have taken place in the city over the years including the planting of 12,000,000 trees since 1978.

The Chairman thanked the Budget Review Committee who met recently to discuss the 2009 budget.

The Chairman noted that the E.C. Brown opening was very successful with approximately 68 persons attending. He thanked the members who attended as well. He indicated that Jocelyn provided an excellent talk, noting, in particular that all departments of the Authority were involved in this project.

The Chairman advised there is a bat display from the Royal Ontario Museum at the Centre for Conservation at Ball's Falls which will remain until November 2nd and encouraged anyone who could to attend.

The Chairman noted that at the end of this week, approximately 5,000 students will have attended the Niagara Children's Water Festival at Ball's Falls.

The Chairman indicated that the Elimination Draw information was handed out at the meeting and that the members should make every effort to attend and if possible get a table together. He noted that proceeds go to the Conservation Foundation.

(4) CAO'S REPORT

The CAO noted the weather was great for the Water Festival public day which had about 1,000 persons attending. According to weather reports it should be great for the rest of the week for the students.

The CAO advised that the first meeting of the Advisory Committee for the new Tree By-law is being held Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m.

The CAO noted that preparations are underway for the upcoming Thanksgiving Festival at Ball's Falls from October 10 - 13. He requested the members' assistance if possible.

The CAO advised that the campgrounds are closing as of this weekend.

The CAO noted that the Watershed Report Card has been distributed this past week.

The CAO provided an update of the sign at Ball's Falls noting that there has been a delay due to the Region requiring the sign be placed further away from the road which would necessitate the removal of several trees. Staff are continuing to work with the Region to move it to the other side of the road. He also note that quotations have been requested for the construction of the sign.

Authority Meeting - Minutes
September 17, 2008 – continued

(5) **2008 CURRENT BUDGET STATUS AND ESTIMATES TO YEAR END - REPORT NO. 64-08**

The CAO overviewed this report in detail noting that at this point there are no significant variances and is within the approved budget. After questions and a discussion the following resolution was presented.

FA-111-08

MOVED BY: B. Butters

SECONDED BY: N. Johnson

THAT: Report No. 64-08 regarding the 2008 Current Budget – Estimates to Year End be received and approved.

“CARRIED”

(6) **2008 CAPITAL BUDGET STATUS AND REPORT ESTIMATES TO YEAR END – REPORT NO. 65-08**

The CAO presented this report in detail and after questions and a brief discussion, the following resolution was presented.

FA-112-08

MOVED BY: M. DiFruscio

SECONDED BY: T. Dalimonte

THAT: Report No. 65-08 regarding the 2008 Capital Budget – Estimates to Year End be received and approved.

“CARRIED”

(7) **PRELIMINARY 2009 CURRENT BUDGET - REPORT NO. 66-08**

The CAO advised that the budget had been discussed and approved by the Budget Review Committee. He outlined the 2009 current budget in detail and responded to questions. The following resolution was then presented.

FA-113-08

MOVED BY: B. Steckley

SECONDED BY: M. DiFruscio

THAT: Report No. 66-08 regarding the 2009 Preliminary Current Budget be received; and

That the 2009 Preliminary Current Budget with a total expenditure of \$6,731,553 and levies of \$4,287,141 to the Niagara Region, \$208,493 to the City of Hamilton and \$26,358 to Haldimand County be approved; and

That staff be authorized to submit the 2009 Preliminary Current Budget to the member municipalities and the Ministry of Natural Resources.

“CARRIED”

Authority Meeting - Minutes
September 17, 2008 – continued

(8) PRELIMINARY 2009 CAPITAL BUDGET - REPORT NO. 67-08

The CAO overviewed the 2009 Capital Budget in detail and responded to questions. After a lengthy discussion, the following resolution was presented.

FA-114-08

MOVED BY: B. Bentley

SECONDED BY: B. Steckley

THAT: Report No. 67-08 regarding the 2009 Preliminary Capital Budget be received; and

That the 2009 Preliminary Capital Budget with a total expenditure of \$5,614,758 and levies of \$2,690,844 to the Niagara Region, \$293,229 to the City of Hamilton and \$85,326 to Haldimand County be approved; and

That staff be authorized to submit the 2009 Preliminary Capital Budget to the member municipalities and the Ministry of Natural Resources.

“CARRIED”

(9) DELEGATIONS POLICY - REPORT NO. 68-08

The CAO advised that this matter was presented at the August meeting and at the request of the Board be reconsidered and brought to this meeting. The CAO outlined his recommendations and the following resolution was presented.

FA-115-08

MOVED BY: B. Greenwood

SECONDED BY: B. Steckley

THAT: the Report No. 68-08 be received and that the policy as outlined in the report be included under Item X1 DELEGATIONS of the Administrative Rules and Procedures as set out by the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority.

“CARRIED”

(10) WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES REPORT NO. 69-08

The Director, Land Management advised this was a confirmation of the Authority's policy adopted in June of 2007 and is to be done on an annual basis. He also noted that a Health and Safety Procedures Manual was being developed and should be brought to the board at the November meeting. The following resolution was presented.

FA-116-08

MOVED BY: A. Fevez

SECONDED BY: T. Dalimonte

THAT: the Report No. 69-08 regarding the Health and Safety Program be received; and

That the Health and Safety Policy Statement for the Conservation Authority dated September 17, 2008 be adopted.

“CARRIED”

(11) PROJECT STATUS REPORT - REPORT NO. 70-08

The CAO responded to questions and the following resolution was then presented.

FA-117-08

MOVED BY: C. D’Angelo

SECONDED BY: B. Bentley

THAT: Report No. 70–08 outlining the status of Authority projects be received for information.

“CARRIED”

(12) IN-CAMERA

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

FA-118-08

MOVED BY: B. Steckley

SECONDED BY: T. Dalimonte

THAT: this meeting do now move in-camera.

Received at 8:28 p.m.

“CARRIED”

FA-119-08

MOVED BY: N. Johnson

SECONDED BY: T. Dalimonte

THAT: this meeting do now move back into open session.

Received at 8:34 p.m.

“CARRIED”

(16) OTHER BUSINESS

Brian Baty indicated that the Department of National Defense property along Lake Ontario is perhaps becoming available and would the Authority be in a position to look at obtaining the property.

Brian Baty commended staff on the E.C. Brown opening and indicated that both sons of the original owner of the property were in attendance.

Authority Meeting - Minutes
September 17, 2008 – continued

Brian Baty also commended the staff at the Niagara Children's Water Festive which he noted was well organized.

The Chairman thanked Brian for attending the opening at E.C. Brown on his behalf.

ADJOURNMENT

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

FA-120-08

MOVED BY: B. Heit

SECONDED BY: B. Butters

THAT: this meeting do now adjourn.

Received at 8:38 p.m.

"CARRIED"

"L. Sawatzky, Recording Secretary

D. Ransom, Chairman"

TO: Chairman and Members of the Authority

DATE: October 21, 2008

RE: BUDGET STATUS REPORT - REPORT NO. 71-08

Attached is the budget status report for the period ending September 30, 2008.

Recommendation:

That the budget status report for the period ending September 30, 2008 be received.

Respectfully Submitted by: _____
Tony D'Amario, P.Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer/Secretary-Treasurer



250 Thorold Road West, 3rd Floor
Welland, Ontario L3C 3W2

Tel (905) 788-3135
Fax (905) 788-1121

E-mail: n pca@conservation-niagara.on.ca

TO: The Chairman and Members of the Authority

DATE: October 8, 2008

RE: Appointment of Enforcement Officers – Report No. 72-08

Staff in the Land Management section of the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority are responsible for working with our municipalities and local landowners to provide advice and assistance through the municipal planning process as well as the processing of permits and investigation of potential violations of the Region's Tree and Forest Conservation By-Law. Currently, a number of staff are NPCA Enforcement Officers appointed by the Board under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act of Ontario. The service level agreement with the Region of Niagara designates NPCA Enforcement Officers as By-Law Enforcement Officers for the purpose of the Tree and Forest Conservation By-Law.

Based on the above, it is recommended that Mr. Dan Drennan, Forester and Mr. Jeff Vlasman, Forestry Technician be appointed as Enforcement Officers under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act of Ontario for the term of their employment with the Conservation Authority, as specified under Section 28 (e) of said Act.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That Mr. Dan Drennan and Mr. Jeff Vlasman be appointed as Enforcement Officers under The Conservation Authorities Act.

Prepared by: Darcy Baker – Director, Land Management

Respectfully Submitted by: _____
Tony D'Amario, P.Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer/Secretary-Treasurer



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E-mail: [npca@conservation-niagara.on.ca](mailto:nzca@conservation-niagara.on.ca)

TO: The Chairman and Members of the Authority

DATE: October 8, 2008

RE: Binbrook Reservoir Dock Licence Agreement – Report No. 73-08

In 2006, the Board approved a request by the Germania Club for the construction of a dock on the Binbrook Reservoir. The Board authorized staff to enter into a license agreement with the Germania Club to permit the dock, and to implement the agreement with all existing docks on the reservoir.

The attached license agreement was drafted by the Crossingham, Brady Barristers and Solicitors. It is a one-year agreement that will protect the Authority's interest in the property. Staff have reviewed the document and do not have any concerns with the terms and conditions. Some key points are:

The Agreement is unregistered;

1. It is for one year
2. The NPCA has a fairly unilateral right to cancel;
3. The NPCA is required to approve of the plans
4. No power boats
5. No alcohol or drugs

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That Report No. 73-08 regarding the Binbrook Reservoir Dock Licence Agreement be received; and,

That the Licence Agreement be approved for use with all owners of docks on the Binbrook Reservoir.

Prepared by: Darcy Baker – Director, Land Management

Respectfully Submitted by:

Tony D'Amario, P.Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer/Secretary-Treasurer

LICENCE AGREEMENT

B E T W E E N:

NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY (“AUTHORITY”)

- and -

XX (“LICENCEE”)

WHEREAS the Licencee owns land adjacent to the Authority’s Binbrook Conservation Area (“Lands” and/or “Waters”).

AND WHEREAS the Licencee has requested permission to install and maintain a dock for personal use on the Lands of the Authority.

AND WHEREAS the Authority has agreed to grant such permission on an annual basis upon certain terms and conditions.

NOW THEREFORE IN CONSIDERATION of the mutual promises and covenants herein contained, the parties hereto, hereby, agree as follows: --

LICENCE

1. The Authority hereby grants permission to the Licencee to install and maintain in the Waters of the Conservation Area a dock. Plans for the dock and its location shall be approved by the Authority prior to installation and no deviation therefrom shall be permitted without prior approval.
2. Authority hereby grants permission to the Licencee and his family, guests and invitees to cross the Lands lying between the property of the Licencee and the shore of the Conservation Area, for the purposes of access to a dock.
3. The permission hereby granted shall be for a period of one year from the date hereof subject to automatic renewal upon payment of the annual fee which may, from time to time, be amended by the Authority and subject always to cancellation by the Authority for any of the following reasons: -
 - (i) The desire of the Authority to create a right in the Lands, which its sole opinion, is inconsistent with the continued existence of the dock;
 - (ii) Use by the Licencee of the dock or Lands and Waters of the Conservation Area in a manner unacceptable to the Authority.
 - (iii) Breach of any term hereof.
 - (iv) The sale of some, or all, of the Lands by the Authority.

The dock shall be removed and access to the water terminated ten (10) days after notice under this paragraph has been given; failing which, the Authority may remove the dock without further notice. Such removal to be at the expense of the Licencee.

4. Neither this Agreement nor any Notice thereof shall be registered on the title of the Authority.

5. The Authority shall have the right to inspect the dock and the surrounding Lands at any time.

PAYMENTS

6. The Licencee shall pay to the Authority an annual fee of \$25.00 on or before the 1st day of March in each year.
7. At the time of payment of the fee, the Licencee shall provide to the Authority a copy of a Public Liability Insurance Policy in favour of the Licencee, naming the Authority as an insured herein, in the amount of Two Million (\$2,000,000.00) Dollars.
8. The Licencee shall be responsible for municipal taxes that may be imposed as a result of this Agreement.

REGULATIONS

9. No boat used on the Waters of the Authority shall be powered by a gasoline or diesel motor.
10. No damage by the Licencee, his family, guests and invitees to the Lands nor Waters of the Authority shall occur and the Licencee shall be responsible for any repair, maintenance or restoration that may be required. The Authority shall be entitled to register against the lands of the Licencee a lien for any costs expended by the Authority to repair, maintain or restore its Lands or Waters as a result of the actions of the Licencee, his family, guests and invitees.
11. All persons using the dock shall comply with all Federal, Provincial and Municipal laws and regulations including any rules of the Authority regarding the operation of watercraft, the protection of the environment and the management of wildlife and natural resources.
12. No drugs or alcoholic beverages shall be used on the Lands or Waters of the Authority.

GENERAL

- 13. This Agreement may not be assigned. Any assignee or transferee of the Licencee shall be required to make a new application to the Authority for permission to maintain a dock.
- 14. Any notice required to be sent, may be sent by pre-paid, ordinary mail:
 - To the Authority at: 250 Thorold Road West
3rd Floor
Welland, Ontario L3C 3W2
 - To the Licencee at: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXX
- 15. The parties hereto agree that the headings inserted in this licence are inserted merely for the purpose of convenience and form no part of the provisions of this licence.
- 16. This agreement constitutes the entire understanding between the parties relating to the subject matter of this agreement.
- 17. Notwithstanding that the Licencee is referred to as being singular and male, this agreement shall be binding upon and ensure to the benefit of the Licencee whether singular, plural, male, female or corporate entity.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have hereunder set their hands and seals this day of _____, 20__.

**THE NIAGARA PENINSULA
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

Witness

Per: _____

Witness

Per: _____

We have the authority to bind
the Conservation Authority

XXXX (“LICENCEE”)

Witness

Per: _____

Witness

Per: _____



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E-mail: npca@conservation-niagara.on.ca

TO: Chairman and Members of the Authority

DATE: October 21, 2008

RE: 2007 Conservation Authority Statistical Survey – Report No. 74-08

Attached for information is the Conservation Ontario 2007 general survey of Conservation Authority programs, services and general information.

The NPCA as well as all other CA's participate in this annual survey to summarize, on a Provincial scale the extent of programs and services offered by Conservation Authorities.

This information is used by Conservation Ontario for various purposes, including advocacy and communications.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Report No. 74-08 regarding the 2007 Conservation Authority Statistical Survey be received.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Tony D'Amario, P.Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer/Secretary-Treasurer

TO: Chairman and Members of the Authority

DATE: October 21, 2008

RE: PROJECT STATUS REPORT - REPORT NO. 75-08

WATER MANAGEMENT

I. Watershed Regulation Division

1) Binbrook Reservoir – City of Hamilton (Glanbrook)

The reservoir water levels for the last 30 days have generally fluctuated between 650.3 feet and 650.7 feet. For reference, the dam holding level is 650.5 feet. The reservoir water level currently sits at 650.4 feet. NPCA staff continue to monitor the reservoir water levels daily.

2) Rain Gauges

In an effort to provide for a better flood forecasting and warning program, the NPCA have recently installed 3 rain gauges. Rain gauges have been installed at NPCA surface water monitoring stations at Canborough (Oswego Creek - Haldimand), Caistor (Welland River – West Lincoln), and Virgil (Four Mile Creek - NOTL).

3) 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.

4) 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 approved 42 permit applications for the 2008 calendar year.

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

Please refer to the associated Report under "in camera" section of agenda.

6) NPCA-DFO Partnership Agreement

The NPCA is under agreement with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) to review works in or near water to determine whether the work is likely to result in the harmful alteration,

disruption or destruction of fish habitat (HADD). During the current calendar year NPCA staff has reviewed 67 applications under this agreement.

As part of the NPCA-DFO Partnership Agreement, NPCA staff work as a liaison between DFO Assessors and proponents to recommend appropriate fish habitat compensation projects. NPCA staff is currently working on the following fish habitat compensation projects:

- Niagara Health Services hospital project in St. Catharine's. To date, staff has been able to work collaboratively with DFO to address the majority of the compensation required. Nonetheless, a minor amount of compensation remain outstanding and staff had provided DFO with a number of sites thought to be suitable. As such, in September a letter was sent requesting DFO to reconsider the candidate sites provided by NPCA. NPCA also offered to complete additional compensation through our restoration program in an effort to satisfy DFO and allow the NHS to bring closure to this issue.

In this regard in late Septemeber, DFO representatives expressed conceptual approval for habitat enhancement works adjacent to the Authority's Shriners Creek facility proposed by the Aquatic Biologist. The Aquatic Biologist is working on a detailed work plan to satisfy DFO and we expect this plan will be approved by DFO by the end of October.

7) Municipal Drain Maintenance Review

Through the NPCA-DFO Partnership Agreement, as well as policies adopted to administer the NPCA Regulation of Development, Interference with Wetlands, and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses, NPCA staff work cooperatively with staff from local municipalities to review and assess proposed municipal drainage projects. NPCA staff has reviewed 27 municipal drain project during the current calendar year.

The NPCA continues to represent Conservation Authorities located in Central Ontario. on the DART Committee with representatives of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, Drainage Superintendents Association of Ontario, Ontario Society of Professional Engineers(Land Drainage Committee), Association of Municipalities of Ontario – Rural Caucus, OMAFRA, MNR and Conservation Ontario. The purpose of the DART is to develop a consistent approach and technical direction with regard to municipal drainage project review under Conservation Authority Regulations.

II. Watershed Planning Division

1) Municipal and Development Plan Input and Review

Traditionally activities in this area show a reduction as fall/winter approaches, however, this year the workload in this area remains constant. Staff would advise this can be attributed to our new expanded regulations as well as, the plan review MOU with the Region and local municipalities

2) Watershed Plan Preparation

a) Fifteen-Sixteen-Eighteen Mile Creeks Watershed Plan

The second draft of the formatted version of the Watershed Plan from Caters-Hardy has been reviewed. Comments and necessary edits have been forwarded to the Communications Director to forward to the printing company handling the project. Once completed, a copy of the final publication will be presented to the members of the Steering Committee as a token of appreciation for their efforts on the project. Council presentations have been scheduled to

request that the respective municipalities adopt the watershed plan. Township of West Lincoln is scheduled for October 20th; Town of Lincoln is set for November 10th; and Town of Pelham is scheduled for November 17th.

b) South Niagara Falls Watershed Plan

The second draft of the formatted version of the Watershed Plan from Caters-Hardy has been reviewed. Comments and necessary edits have been forwarded to the Communications Director to forward to the printing company handling the project. Once completed, a copy of the final publication will be presented to the members of the Steering Committee as a token of appreciation for their efforts on the project. Council presentations have been scheduled to request that the respective municipalities adopt the watershed plan. The City of Welland presentation has been scheduled for November 4th and a tentative date of December 1st has been set for the City of Niagara Falls presentation.

c) Lake Erie North Shore Watershed Plan

All comments from the Steering Committee and the new suite of maps have been incorporated in the Draft Background Report entitled *Watershed Characterization and Preliminary Issues Identification*. This report has been submitted to the supervisor for review. Arrangements have been made with the Port Colborne and Wainfleet public libraries to set up a display and have copies of the document laid out for public review and commenting. Flyers indicating the dates and locations of the upcoming public workshops have also been placed at the display. Two public workshops have been arranged in the study area; one in Port Colborne on November 25th at the Roselawn Centre and the second workshop has been scheduled for December 4th at the Lions Club in Long Beach in Wainfleet. A Steering Committee meeting has been scheduled for October 28th. The purpose of this meeting is to provide the members with information on some of the other projects that the NPCA is conducting in the study area and what these studies have revealed. An intern position through Brock University was posted and interviews were conducted on prospective students. The student awarded the position started October 3rd, and will be assisting the Watershed Planning Technician one day a week for the duration of the school year. Geomorphic information has been collected on the following watercourses: Wignell Drain, Oil Mill Creek and Welland Canal South. Field notes from the summer field season were reviewed and data entry of collected field data has commenced into an Access database.

d) Central Welland River Watershed Plan

All comments from the Steering Committee have been incorporated in the Draft Background Report entitled *Watershed Characterization and Preliminary Issues Identification*. This report has been submitted to the supervisor for review. Arrangements have been made with the Welland and Pelham public libraries to set up a display and have copies of the document laid out for public review and commenting. Flyers indicating the date and location of the upcoming public workshop have also been placed at the display. One public workshop has been arranged in the study area at the Lions Club in Welland on November 20th. A Steering Committee meeting has been scheduled for October 21st. The purpose of this meeting is to provide the members with information on some of the other projects that the NPCA and other groups are conducting in the study area and what these studies have revealed.

e) Beaverdams and Shriners Creek Watershed Plan

Writing and research for the Background Report continues and will not be complete until early 2009.

3) Lyons Creek East Fluvial Geomorphology Study

The Phase One report is expected to be delivered to the Watershed Planning Specialist by October 8th; this date has been pushed back from the original expected date of October 3rd. A Phase One meeting has been arranged for October 17th with the consultants conducting the Lyons Creek Fluvial Geomorphology Study. Parish Geomorphic, Phillips Engineering and respective NPCA staff will be attending this meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to review the Phase One outcome and any concerns regarding this phase of the study as well as go over the next steps and Phase Two of the project.

4) Natural Areas Inventory

After meeting with The Technical and Steering Committees for the project, staff have completed the draft layout for the final report and have begun the technical writing for the introductory chapters. Crews (staff and volunteers) will continue to collect field data (weather permitting) until the end of October at which time they will begin entering the field data into the project database. The Project Coordinator has been invited to present preliminary findings of the project to various partners and interest groups.

III. Source Water Protection Division

1) Source Water Protection Plan

-The Ministry of Environment (MOE) held their September 29th & 30th coordination meeting with the Source Protection Committee (SPC) chairs in Niagara-On-The-Lake (NOTL), instead of the regular Toronto location. The change in venues, which came about thanks to an invitation extended by Mark Neufeld, Niagara's SPC Chair, provided the chance to hi-light the SPA and promote the Niagara Peninsula. The meeting was initiated with speeches by Mark Neufeld and Gary Burrows, Mayor of NOTL.

-On October 1st, the MOE and MNR held an Information Exchange Session (otherwise known as a program audit) for the Source Protection (SP) program at NPCA. The full-day meeting, which was attended by senior provincial officials in charge of the SP program, offered NPCA staff the chance to show what NPCA has accomplished, as well as ask questions and express any concerns about the provincial program. The MNR and MOE officials were pleased with the progress and management of the SP program at NPCA to-date.

- The Proposed TOR is expected to be submitted to the MOE on Monday, October 06.

-NPCA will be meeting with Niagara Region staff on October 9 to review the progress of the SP work undertaken on the Intake Protection Zones (IPZs). A detailed workplan from the consultant, (Stantec), is to be submitted to Niagara Region by October 7th.

-Work is progressing on the Tier 1 Water Budget as scheduled.

2) Routine Water Quality Projects

- Routine monthly monitoring continues at 66 surface water stations and 15 groundwater wells located throughout the NPCA watershed in September.

- The Water Quality Monitoring Department has completed a technical summary for the AOC Welland River Eutrophication Technical Working Group to evaluate existing sampling efforts.

-Taxonomic identification of benthic invertebrate samples collected during the spring sampling season continues.

- Data entry and database management are on-going as large quantities of water quality data are generated through various monitoring initiatives.
- Three wet-weather events were sampled in September 2008 for the Lake Ontario Collaborative Study on Twenty Mile Creek. Since late-May the NPCA has collected water quality samples on 13 wet weather events with an auto-sampler installed in Jordan.

b) Special Water Quality Projects

- The NPCA and the Region of Niagara's Public Health Unit will be sampling residential water wells in the vicinity of a PGMN well in Niagara-on-the-Lake. This confirmatory sampling will be completed in mid-October in an effort to characterize the nitrate contamination in this area. The sampling offered is voluntary and individual landowners will be provided with their water quality results. The NPCA expects to complete this survey in October 2008.
- The NPCA has received approximately a dozen calls in September requesting applications for the NPCA Water Well Decommissioning Grant Program due to recent advertising in local papers.

IV. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Division

1) Source Water Protection Support Activities

Most SWP efforts have been focused on remaining Tier 1 Water Budget technical tasks:

- The GIS based groundwater flux analysis has been completed.
- The Groundwater Study water table surface was smoothed and used as input to regenerating groundwater-sheds.
- Final draft mapping of the Intake Protection Zone (IPZ2) Vulnerable Areas were received by the Region's consultant and integrated into watershed wide layer.
- Staff highlighted several Niagara specific GIS and information management initiatives that support and benefit Source Protection Planning during the recent Partnership Exchange meeting with MOE and MNR. Several issues of concern were also communicated regarding the Assessment Report Regulation proposed apping symbology standards.
- A Darcy groundwater flow surface has been finalized based on the potentiometric surface input
- A script has been developed that uses the Darcy surface to estimate groundwater flows between watershed planning areas. These values are being initially compared against the groundwater loss rates from the Water Availability Study.

2) Watershed Planning Support Activities

- Several tasks supporting the Natural Areas Inventory Project are being addressed.
 - DRAFT Community Series ELC mapping for the Town of Grimsby has been completed.
 - DRAFT Community Series ELC mapping has begun development for the Town of Lincoln.
 - Assigning Tract Codes on the mapping for the natural areas within this field seasons extent continues in preparation of this winters data entry efforts.
 - The tabular ELC database continues to be investigated to see if there are any technical adjustments that can be made that would help speed up the field data entry...some progress has been made.
- DRAFT Community Series ELC mapping has begun development for the Town of

Grimsby.

- Tagging this field season's visited natural areas with Tract Codes is taking place in preparation for this fall's data entry tasks.
- The ELC database is being investigated to see if there are any technical adjustments that can be made that would help speed up the field data entry.
 - b) Updates to the Authority Generic Regulation hazard layers and derivative Screening and Niagara Natural Environment Information layers continue.
 - b) Updates to the Authority Generic Regulation hazard layers and derivative screening mapping has been completed. Combining this information with the Regional Natural Heritage/Environmental Policies mapping to form the Niagara Natural Environment Information mapping as an Authority requirement of the Niagara Planning Function Review MOU continues.

3) Corporate GIS Support Activities

- GIS continues to close out the 'Areas of Concern' mapping project for Environment Canada.
- Hydrologic catchments have been developed as analysis units for the Wetland Restoration Suitability Mapping project partnership with Ducks Unlimited being piloted in the Oswego Creek sub watershed.
- GIS continues the 'Areas of Concern' mapping project for Environment Canada. Progress is limited to how fast Environment Canada can facilitate comments back to staff.
- Technical work on our 1:2000 surface water spatial framework continues with tasks involving segmentation and classification of single lined watercourses and the development of water body polygons from the mapped river and lake shorelines. Staff is also working on scripting an advanced hydrologic reinforcement process which will enable processing of the entire watershed at a time as opposed a single watershed which has been a limitation to date. When successful, standardized corporate drainage areas will be possible to regenerate en route to continuing our development of a Hydrologic Information System for the Niagara Watershed.
- The Authority recently hosted the fall *Geomatics Niagara Information Advisory Group* meeting at the Balls Falls Centre for Conservation.

IV. Watershed Restoration Division

1) General Watershed Restoration

Areas where current watershed plans have not yet been developed continue to have priority water quality and habitat projects delivered through the general restoration program. The following are some of the current implementation highlights:

- 15 water quality and habitat improvement projects have been completed or are near completion in priority areas across the watershed. Projects include riparian buffers, cover crop demonstrations for erosion control, aquatic bank stabilization project, 3 wetland projects, 2 nutrient management projects and several tree planting projects.
- Staff attended the ReLeaf Hamilton Network meeting in September. Organized by the Hamilton-Wentworth Stewardship Council, the Network aims to facilitate the maintenance, restoration and enhancement of a healthy and sustainable forest canopy using good forestry practices in the Hamilton area through encouraging partnerships, education and outreach and conservation planning from a landscape level. The Releaf Hamilton Network will be a valuable means of partnering and promoting the NPCA Restoration Program in the upper Twenty, upper Welland and Forty Mile Creek watersheds.

2) Welland River Restoration

- 13 water quality improvement projects are on-going through the summer, fall and into the spring of 2009. All projects are within the Niagara River Area of Concern and are working towards improving water quality and habitat within this AOC.
- Staff will be working in partnership with Ducks Unlimited (DU) on the construction of 3 wetland restoration projects within the Welland River watershed in October and November. Staff are also working with DU on future projects to be included in our 3 year project partnership between the NPCA, Ducks Unlimited and the Ontario Trillium Foundation.
- A riparian restoration project is underway and will be completed in early November. The project will involve the installation of BioD-Block coir bioengineering system (an innovative bioengineering product that will be used for the first time within the Welland River watershed) along with various other bioengineering techniques and the planting of a riparian buffer. The ultimate goal being to reduce erosion and sediment loads while increasing diversity and aquatic habitat. Staff are presently meeting with prospective contractors and working on the project design.
- A Best Management Practice project was completed in late September that will help to reduce nutrient runoff within the Big Forks Creek subwatershed.
- Site visits with interested Welland River watershed landowners continue as staff discusses a wide range of project possibilities. Staff also continues to distribute letters and program information to landowners who have water quality improvement project potential on their properties. An example would be the potential for riparian restriction fencing to reduce nutrient loading, erosion and destruction of aquatic habitat.

3) Fort Erie Creeks Watershed Restoration

The Fort Erie Creeks Watershed Plan has been received by restoration staff for implementation. Staff are reviewing the recommendations and assembling the Implementation Committee. Staff are building the communications in the watershed with landowners and community groups in order to promote project interest. The following are some of the current implementation highlights:

- A shoreline stabilization project was completed along the Niagara River in partnership with the Niagara Parks Commission. The 90 meter stretch suffered from severe erosion and a lack of vegetation. Large armour stone was installed to stabilize the bank. Fish habitat improvement will be accomplished through the spring planting of a riparian vegetated buffer along the project length.
- Landowner contact programs and other outreach initiatives are being explored such as newspaper articles and direct mailings.

4) Twenty Mile Creek Restoration

- The Twenty Mile Creek Watershed Implementation Committee will meet next month to discuss strategy implementation deliverables, work plans and timelines. The following are some of the current implementation highlights:

- Staff continue to visit with landowners interested in reforestation projects on their properties. To date, 12 acres of reforestation projects for 2009 are confirmed.
- Three nutrient management projects have been completed in conjunction with the Environmental Farm Plan (EFP).

5) Twelve Mile Creek Restoration

- The Twelve Mile Creek Watershed Implementation Committee will meet soon to discuss strategy implementation deliverables, work plans and timelines. The following are some of the current implementation highlights:

- This past weekend marked the start of a new outreach partnership with Brock University's Community Connections program. A broad spectrum of students participated in a clean-up day along an important reach of Dick's Creek in St. Catharines. The activity provided the opportunity for staff to engage young people directly in the importance of water quality to our human communities, along with the aquatic and terrestrial ones. This area is home to two tree species of concern, which are threatened by erosion due to development upstream. The day closed with a novel "debriefing" session during which students expressed their ideas about the activity. All seemed to have enjoyed the opportunity to make a contribution to stream health. The City of St. Catharines provided valuable assistance in removing the piles of garbage and recycleable material collected. Thanks go out to the Pendale Plaza management for allowing access through their property.
- Planting for a dispersion sandwich (bio-filter) and wetland project has been completed. This project is designed to collect runoff from a manure composting area. The dispersion sandwich will reduce nitrates, while the wetland will clean the water further, and reduce some phosphorus. Over the next few years the water will be tested occasionally to monitor the results.
- A successful volunteer planting event was held at the Decew project last week. Over fifty Niagara College students participated. This week another event is planned with volunteers from OPG, The Bruce Trail Conservancy, Niagara Restoration Council, Friends of Short Hills and others. The support for the project has been wonderful, and demonstrates the importance of this area to residents.
- Planting and direct-seeding of wetland and riparian plants at the off-line wetland/fish habitat project has been completed.
- Staff are working with the EFP (Environmental Farm Plan) to implement a stream crossing livestock restriction project at a Thorold farm in the headwaters of Twelve Mile Creek. The project will protect water quality and aquatic health in the stream.

6) Niagara-on-the-Lake Restoration

-The One Mile Creek Watershed Implementation Committee met on September 25 to discuss several issues outlined in the plan such as:

- Including recommended plan items in the Town's budget and official plan (replacement of undersized culverts; storm water management pond placement),
- The extraneous overflow and rain barrel program being implemented by the Town of NOTL,
- The development of the NPCA's One Mile Creek Stewardship manual to be given out to residents along the creek,
- The up coming fall creek clean up day,
- The Lansdowne pond ownership search by the MNR,
- The recently received William Street landfill report prepared by AMEC

-As projects are finalized for the 2008 season more projects are being developed for the spring 2009 season. The following projects are currently underway: two greenhouse water recycling systems, a compost storage project to supplement a power generating anaerobic digester, 2 wildflower cover crop demonstrations, aquatic erosion remediation to be implemented along the escarpment, and several tree planting projects.

7) E.C. Brown Wetland Project

-The official ribbon cutting of the newly restored wetland at E.C. Brown Conservation Area took place on Monday September 15, 2008. Over 70 guests attended including representatives from the following partnering agencies, Ontario Power Generation, Ducks Unlimited, Niagara

Community Foundation, Niagara Restoration Council, the Ministry of the Environment, Environment Canada and the Welland River Keepers.

Brief presentations were followed by tours of the site and lite refreshments. Several media groups were represented resulting in excellent articles about the project in the Tribune, Niagara This Week and a radio interview with Niagara at Noon.

-Staff will be working with Niagara College students to develop a long-term restoration, monitoring and outreach plan for the site.

8) Yellow Fish Road

Staff are preparing for the delivery of Yellow Fish Road 2008/2009 school season. Schools are being contacted in conjunction with the promotion of the Eco School Program.

9) ECO School Program

-Applications are already being received for the 2009 program. Schools are being contacted in conjunction with the promotion of the Yellow Fish Road. Applications are also available online through our website, which is generating higher response. Thirty schools have indicated a keen interest to participate. Applications will be formally sent out the first week in January, with a March 1 deadline, as in the past. Staff are working with teachers to include seed harvesting into the program so that students can harvest the seeds in the fall and grow them in the classroom during the winter months, along side the ever so popular bean plant . This will link with the science curriculum's for both elementary and secondary schools, and help promote the use of native plants.

10) Source Water Protection – Stewardship

- Staff received updates to the Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program (ODWSP) during a teleconference on September 24th. The program provides funding for “Early Actions” projects including well decommissioning, septic upgrades, buffers and BMPs and pollution prevention audits for small and medium businesses within Intake Protection Zones. The NPCA was allocated \$27,000 for these projects. Additional funding can be applied for if the original allocation is utilized. Due to the very limited area of Intake Protection Zones across Niagara, additional funding will not likely be required.

V. Remedial Action Plan (RAP) Division

1) Lyons Creek

The Niagara River AOC Phase 1V Report: Sediment Management Options for Lyon’s Creek East and West (August 2008) is now available. Copies have been distributed to the project participants (i.e. NPCA, Environment Canada, Ministries of Environment and Natural Resources, Transport Canada, Regional Municipality of Niagara, City of Welland, Hydro One, Golder Associates Ltd., and Dillon Consulting Ltd).

The Lyon’s Creek East Community Liaison Committee (CLC) met on September 23 at the NPCA and eleven citizens attended. A variety of issues were raised and discussed, including plans to present the recommended sediment management strategy of Monitored Natural Recovery to the Welland RiverKeepers prior to the upcoming public Open House.

The Technical Advisory Group met on September 30, 2008 to plan for the public Open House at Lyon’s Creek East, where the recommendation of Monitored Natural Recovery will be presented. It was agreed that the meeting schedule should be revised to allow for a further review of the project evaluation criteria and the rationale for Monitored Natural Recovery with the CLC prior to the Open House. The revised schedule is as follows:

- October 28: CLC meeting to review the committee's Terms of Reference and the project evaluation criteria. Staff from MNR will present information on property ownership along the impacted section of Lyon's Creek East.
- November 18: presentation of recommended option to the Welland RiverKeepers
- November 25: Public Open House - Lyon's Creek East

Plans were also developed to update the community on the activities at Lyon's Creek West in a fall season newsletter drop.

The Technical Advisory Group is scheduled to meet again on November 4 to prepare for the Open House and discuss the various components that will comprise the sediment management strategy.

2) Niagara Water Strategy (NWS)

The next NWS Water Advisory Group meeting is anticipated to be in Fall 2008.

3) Stage 2 RAP Update

Planning is underway to convene an inaugural RAP Implementers meeting, scheduled for November 27, 2008 at the Ball's Falls Centre for Conservation. All the components necessary to develop a strategic work plan (i.e. the draft Stage 2 Update report, draft RAP Work Plan, and the Technical Review of Impairments and Delisting Criteria report) for the Niagara River AOC will be presented for discussion. The intent is to establish a committee that will meet (biannually or annually) to report on progress. Planning is underway to convene a meeting of the RAP Science Committee in the Fall. Updates will be provided for each of the monitoring projects, including initial data from the Eutrophication and Water Quality Assessment project for the Welland River.

The Niagara River RAP Update – 2008 is currently being distributed to stakeholders and the public.

A RAP presentation is on the agenda for the Central Welland River Watershed Steering Committee meeting on October 21, 2008.

4) International Liaison

- The Niagara River RAP (New York) Advisory Committee met on September 30 at NYSDEC Region 9 Headquarters in Buffalo to further develop delisting criteria for the Niagara River.
- The Buffalo Niagara RiverKeepers is scheduled to meet on October 21, 2008.
- Niagara River RAP Coordinating Committee members will attend the State of the Lakes Ecosystem Conference in Niagara Falls, Ontario, on October 22-23, 2008.
- The next meeting of the Niagara River Ecosystem Roundtable is to be determined. In the meantime, the Niagara Parks Commission is taking the lead to convene a meeting with the NY State Parks Agency and the two Power Authorities.
- Plans for the Boundary Water Treaty Centennial Celebration will be publicized at the State of the Lakes Ecosystem Conference. The festival of environmental programs is expected to run from June 5 to June 14, 2009.

5) Niagara River Toxics Management Plan (NRTMP)

Discussions are underway between the NRTMP agencies on the future issues and challenges for the program. A NRTMP "State of the Niagara" conference and the International Joint Commission's centennial celebration of the International Boundary Waters Treaty are expected to be held in multiple locations within the Niagara Region in early June 2009.

LAND MANAGEMENT

Ball's Falls Heritage Conservation Area

Staff are working hard to prepare the site for the 34th Annual Thanksgiving Festival, held October 10 through 13, 2008. This year activities will be extended to include the new Centre for Conservation.

Final reports have been forwarded to both the Canada Summer Jobs program and the Summer Jobs Service program. These programs help fund the summer staff at our Conservation Areas.

Staff and heritage volunteers participated in the public day for the Niagara Children's Water Festival.

Two additional blacksmithing workshops were held in September due to popular demand.

The traveling exhibit from the Royal Ontario Museum, "Bats of Ontario" has been popular. In the 4 weeks to date, an average of 250 visitors have attended the exhibit each weekend. Related children's activities offered on Saturdays have been well attended. Special programs have been provided for youth groups, scouts, guides and for birthday celebrations. The education programs designed by Centre staff for JK/SK to grade 12 and special education have also been well received. Approximately 600 students are booked, with only 2 afternoon openings available.

The Centre is partnering with the Lincoln Public Library to present award winning author Kenneth Oppel on October 29. Oppel's writings relate well to the current "Bats Exhibit". Two sessions are offered. The first session is already full with more than 200 students from 4 schools registered to attend. The sessions are also advertised to the general public.

The poster has been prepared for the next exhibit, "Canadian Feed Bag Quilts - Recycled then & Now" (November 15 to January 4th). A workshop is also being planned.

A guest book has been placed in the Centre lobby and many positive comments have been made by visitors.

Two interns from Brock University Geography Department are working with Andrea Wilson 1 day a week for 15 weeks starting in October to work on the exhibits and programming.

Centre staff are working with the Outdoor Education Department at Brock to explore opportunities to work together on programming possibilities.

Staff met with the Department of Canadian Heritage staff on site regarding applying for a Museums Assistance program grant to assist with the development of Centre collections storage space. Canadian heritage staff were impressed with the building and we will be proceeding to make application for funding within the next month.

Staff continue their efforts to recruit volunteers for the expanded programming at the site.

Ball's Falls Site Development

In partnership with the Town of Lincoln roads department, late fall projects include ditching and culvert work along 6th Avenue in the lower parking area near the heritage buildings. New berming and fencing to restore areas from the ditching project will be handled by Authority staff.

Staff are in discussion with the Region for the new entrance sign at Victoria Avenue and entrance to the Centre. Road widening plans on the books were to be taken into account before a sign location could be approved, and the sign visibility triangle is under review for final location approval.

Additional actions have been initiated to help preserve the heritage fruit trees at Ball's Falls. Bud cuttings from the remaining aged apple trees have been taken and grafted onto suitable rooting stock. This work is being completed in partnership with a local nursery. Successful grafts will remain growing at the nursery for two years and then transplanted at by staff at the Ball's Falls site. These additional trees will help to maintain the original apple variety at the site as the existing tree species are aging.

Long Beach and Chippawa Creek CAs

The camping season ended on September 28th. Staff are shutting-down campground systems and preparing for the winter season.

Chippawa Creek continues to be active, hosting a number of cross-country events and group camping for scouting organizations.

St. John's CA

Quotations for the bridge materials have been obtained, and we are tentatively scheduling start of the bridge and walkway replacement projects later this month.

Binbrook CA

Earthworks are currently underway in the park to improve parking areas near the playground for next season. With day use increasing, staff are reviewing future locations for park amenities including concession and pavilion opportunities. The Conservation Planner is updating the master plan for the park to meet current needs while planning for future growth.

EC Brown Constructed Wetland

The park was officially opened mid September and staff are monitoring the property for the fall season.

Prior to winter the floating dock will be removed and stored at the Central Workshop.

Wainfleet Bog Conservation Area

Additional requests are being received for educational tours of the Wainfleet Bog and its restoration work. A group of approximately 105 university students will be touring the site this month.

Woodend Conservation Area

Staff have been working with the District School Board of Niagara to address concerns with the access road to Woodend Conservation Area. The DSBN leases facilities from the Conservation Authority to operate the Woodend Outdoor Education Centre. The access road has been impacted by increased bus traffic and vehicles visiting the site, resulting in large potholes and drainage problems. Under the terms of the lease, the access road is the responsibility of the Authority, however the DSBN and neighbouring Walker Industries, have been assisting with the routine maintenance. Staff hope to develop a long-term solution to the road problems in consultation with DSBN by the end of 2008.

Beamer Memorial Conservation Area

A new roof was installed on the washroom building at Beamer Memorial Conservation Area. Over the next few weeks, a contractor will be moving into the site to clean and re-paint the hawkwatch tower. This work will help protect the structure against weathering and corrosion.

Virgil Conservation Area

Land Management staff are assisting with upgrades at the Virgil Dams Conservation Area. Negotiations are underway with Town of NOTL staff to install gates at the parking lot entrance. These measures should help to reduce after-hours activities that have been bothering neighbouring property owners.

Resource Inventory for Conservation Areas

Staff are completing resource protocols for updating the resource information at all Conservation Areas. This information will assist in making resource based decisions at the sites.

NPCA Hunting Program

Staff have issued an additional 57 hunting permits. To date staff have received and issued 243 hunting permits for 2008. Of these, 10 permits are issued to individuals residing outside of our administrative area.

Regional Tree By-Law

Staff are making presentations to staff from the local municipalities on the Regional Tree and Forest Conservation By-Law. Recent newspaper articles have increased public awareness of the by-law. This has resulted in many telephone inquiries. A summary of activity will be presented in-camera.

The Tree and Forest Conservation By-Law Advisory Committee met on September 18th. Committee members were introduced to staff and had an opportunity to discuss many issues related to the Region's Transfer and the NPCA implementation of the By-Law.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Niagara Children's Water Festival

The festival was held the week of September 14 – 19, 2008. Over 5,000 students participated in the school program and approximately 1,200 people were in attendance for the Public Day.

A.D. Latornell Conservation Symposium

This year's symposium will take place at the Nottawasaga Inn November 18 - 21st. Program presentations will be made by NPCA staff.

Ball's Falls Thanksgiving Festival

The 34th Annual Festival will take place October 10 – 13, 2008. Staff appeared on CHCH TV's Niagara Express to promote the event. This segment is carried on satellite with viewing available across the country.

Conservation Achievement Awards

The Awards evening will be held at the Four Points Sheraton Suites in Thorold, on Tuesday, November 25th commencing at 7:00 p.m. Invitations to recipients will be sent out by mail.

Schools in Bloom Program

The Conservation Authority has participated in this program which is coordinated through the City of Niagara Falls. This year each participating school will receive a rain barrel from the Authority. There will be an awards event on October 30 to recognize all the participants in this important program.

Trillium Foundation

As members may recall, the Conservation Authority and the Wainfleet Lions Club received a "Great Grants" Award from the Ontario Trillium Foundation for our project at Morgan's Point. Most recently, OTF has been promoting the impact to communities from these co-operative projects to the media and other publications to increase awareness of success stories. Our project at Morgan's Point was featured as example of a tremendous success story in this promotion and awareness campaign.

Source Water Protection

Staff designed a display for the Niagara South Federation of Agriculture for use at various events. The display has been well received and is garnering interest from the public for the program. Most recently staff met with the project team from MNR and MOE to gain an overview of the program deliverables to date. The session was well received.

NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

Thanksgiving Festival

The Foundation's annual raffle will once again take place in the barn at this year's Ball's Falls Thanksgiving Festival. More than \$2,000 in prizes will be given away and include a quilted wall hanging donated by the Ball's Falls Heritage Advisory Committee, a handcrafted rustic bench donated by Black Creek Timber Framing, and four gift baskets with items donated by the Festival artisans. Board members are encouraged to support festival activities.

Centre for Conservation Presentation

As a complement to the bat exhibit currently on exhibit at the Centre for Conservation, award winning Canadian author Kenneth Oppel will be on hand to make two presentations about his novels on Wednesday, October 29th. Staff has made requests and a presentation to local Rotary Clubs to request their financial support of this initiative.

Elimination Draw & Dinner

The Foundation's 7th annual event that involves an evening of delicious food, plenty of fun and a chance to win cash prizes is taking place on Friday, November 7th at the Welland Lions Community Centre on River Road. Board members are encouraged to attend and help spread the word about this fundraising event, noting that for only \$70 a ticket, guests will be treated to a five-course dinner, all drinks and the chance to win more than \$1,000 in cash prizes. Proceeds will support the new Centre for Conservation at Ball's Falls. Please notify staff if flyers or tickets are required.

Recommendation:

Report No. 75-08 outlining the status of Authority projects be received for information.

Respectfully Submitted by: _____

Tony D'Amario, P.Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer/Secretary-Treasurer